

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
JANUARY 28, 2002
MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

- 1. Present at Roll Call:** Chair Glenn Dunning, Commissioners Mary Schreiber, David Wood, Michael Candela and Wendy Coggins; Staff: Park Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Chris Boza, Assistant City Attorney Alicia M. Rock, and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson. Absent: Commissioners Don Kidd and Kathryn Tzikas.
- 2. Election of Officers**

COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER NOMINATED WENDY COGGINS FOR CHAIR.
COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0

COMMISSIONER WOOD NOMINATED MICHAEL CANDELA FOR VICE CHAIR.
COMMISSIONER COGGINS SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Minutes from Regular Meeting of December 17, 2001**
- 2. Consideration of Application and Permit for Park Use “Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs” Event, Saturday, May 18, 2002**
- 3. Review and Approve Proposed Resolution to Tow Vehicles Parked in Non-Designated Parking Areas.**

COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER MOVED TO ACCEPT THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0,

3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS None

4. REGULAR AGENDA

- 1. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda** None

2. Review and Discussion of Chico Cat Coalition Activities

Kathy Howard and Linda Stukey, both of whom have been with the Coalition from the beginning in 1998, told about the work of volunteers to remove feral cats from Bidwell Park. They have removed many, but more are always being left. There is \$1,000 fine for abandoning an animal, but no one has yet been caught and fined. Each cat removed needs about \$100 for medical care. They estimate about 30 to 35 cats will be abandoned before the end of the fiscal year, and more money is needed to cover those costs. They would like to see an end of the program, but know of no solution to stop the abandonment. They requested support for additional \$3,300 for the balance of FY 01-02.

COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER MOVED TO REQUEST \$3,300 FUNDING FROM CITY COUNCIL. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0.

3. Consider the Appeals of George Grams, 1025 Sir William Court and Timothy Skaggs, 1041 Sir William Court Regarding Removal of Encroachments - Lindo Channel Greenway.

From the public, George Grams said he requests approval to leave his improvements in place until there is a decision regarding a purchase of land from the City. The site is not accessible and it would be expensive to move back a fence and remove irrigation. Tim Skaggs said they are stunned they do not own the property involved, and never intended to use public land. He would like an extension regarding removal of fence, irrigation and underground pool equipment until there is a decision regarding purchase of land from the City. Michael Jones said Council has conceptually approved a bike trail along the Channel, but it would not go through their encroachments.

Chair Dunning said all appeals go on to Council anyway so he questions why they even spend time hearing them. In the past, they have followed directives with few exceptions and there is no obvious financial hardship here. Commissioner Wood said others have cleared their parcel so all should. Commission Schreiber said she is sympathetic but cannot say to leave their encroachments when the directive is for all. Commissioner Candela said this looks like some financial hardship so all should be left as is temporarily.

COMMISSIONER COGGINS MOVED TO DENY BOTH REQUESTS FOR APPEAL. COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 4-1. YES:

CHAIR DUNNING, COMMISSIONERS COGGINS, SCHREIBER AND WOOD. NO:
COMMISSIONER CANDELA.

4. Consider Application and Permit for Park Use from the Downtown Chico Business Association for 2002 Thursday Night Market April 4 to September 26, 2002 - Plaza Park

Park Director Beardsley said these items are on the agenda to make Commission aware of routine permits, except Items 5 and 6 have a change in dates from permits allowed for the previous events.

COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER MOVED TO APPROVE PERMIT FOR PLAZA PARK FOR DCBA THURSDAY NIGHT MARKET. COMMISSIONER COGGINS SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0.

5. Consider Application and Permit for Park Use from the Downtown Chico Business Association for 2002 Friday Night Concerts May 10 to September 27, 2002 (except June 28, 2002) - Park Plaza

COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER MOVED TO APPROVE PERMIT FOR PLAZA PARK FOR DCBA FRIDAY NIGHT CONCERTS. COMMISSIONER COGGINS SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0.

6. Consider Application and Permit from Balls Edge Concerts for 2002 Concert Series for Various Saturday Night Concerts - Plaza Park

From the public, DNA said the permit is based on attendance from Wednesdays last year, and can be changed as needed for Saturday night. He promotes mainstream music to build an audience. There will be police patrol and there have been no incidents in the past. Joseph Chamberlain, a musician who has played in Plaza Park, said Saturday night should increase attendance for the concerts and be good for downtown business.

COMMISSIONER COGGINS MOVED TO APPROVE THE PERMIT FOR PLAZA PARK SATURDAY NIGHT CONCERTS. COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0.

7. Review and Consider Comments Responding to the Draft Environmental Impact Report and Environmental Assessment on the Project of Widening of Manzanita Avenue, Chico Canyon Road and Bruce Road Between East

Avenue and State Route 32. In addition, the Commission may take action expressing an opinion on what, if any, improvements are preferred.

Chair Dunning excused himself from participation in this item for conflict of interest

Park Director Beardsley said there have been meetings, a workshop with CARD, and a lot of discussion on this project. Tonight Commission is asked to comment on the adequacy in the environmental document and express opinions on the alternatives they would like presented for Council review. The need is to consider connecting Upper Park and Lower Park at Manzanita. The next step is to adopt the document and select the project to pursue.

Staff believes the document is adequate. Traffic circles would inhibit park trail use across widen Manzanita adjacent Big Chico Creek. A trail along Manzanita to Wildwood could go along the street or meander more into the Park. Consider removal of trees in making that recommendation. Staff would like a light at both Vallombrosa and Manzanita and at Manzanita and Centennial. If there is only one light at Vallombrosa and Manzanita, staff suggests a passage on both sides of the new bridge for pedestrians, bikers, and equestrians be considered. Public comments on the adequacy of the EIR will be taken until February 5, 2002. Comments on a preferred alternative can be made after that date, so could be on the BPPC February agenda.

Commissioner Schreiber said people should see the graphics of the project at more workshops. The tape is available to the public. Commissioner Coggins is surprised at so little input from the public. She would like to see the comments submitted from the public before deciding on alternative preferences. Commissioner Wood said he would like the meandering path along Manzanita and would like the bridge width to be as little as practical. Commissioner Candela would like to know how left-hand turns onto Vallombrosa and Centennial would be prohibited in alternative 3. Also, that alternative would be most invasive in the park at its most visible part.

From the public, John Paul Gutierrez said traffic lights would slow traffic for the neighborhood and he would like to read the proposal. The document is available at the Planning Department, on a CD for \$5.00, or on the City web sight. Michael Jones said Alternative 5 is dangerous for hikers and don't let decisions adversely impact the existing Lindo Channel trail.

COMMISSIONER WOOD MOVED 1) ABSENT LIGHTS ON MANZANITA AT BOTH VALLOMBROSA AND CENTENNIAL, THERE WOULD BE BOTH A WEST AND EAST SIDE CROSSING ON THE BRIDGE FOR PEDESTRIANS, BIKERS AND EQUESTRIANS; 2) THE BRIDGE BE MADE AS NARROW AS PRACTICAL; 3) THE TRAIL ALONG MANZANITA

WOULD MEANDER INTO THE PARK; AND 4) ACCOMMODATE THE LINDO CHANNEL TRAIL. COMMISSIONER COGGINS SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 4-0.

8. Review and Discussion of Goat Grazing in Bidwell Park

Urban Forester Boza showed photos of the program's progress in areas of Bidwell Park. Results are gradual and do not give dramatic changes, but improve sight lines for safety and discourage growth of non-native plant species. Chemicals need protective gear during application but are used judiciously as last resort and fire is more indiscriminate than grazing. Security for the goats will be a topic in the bid process, but City's goal is not to provide private security. The bid objectives are fairly general and flexible but work with the vegetation management plan. No action recommended or taken.

9. Trail/Safety Meeting of November 6, 2001

Discussion and action regarding trail plan for new addition - Bidwell Park

The Committee recommends conceptual approval of the trail plan as presented so that the EIR can be done on both the Annie Bidwell Trail and Upper Bidwell Park Trail . There has been a lot of input and the plan represents current priorities, but is not final as shown. Chair Dunning said the map shows the vision for several years out and includes all input offered. But all trails will not necessarily be built as drawn. Commissioner Wood thanks Michael Jones for flagging the trails and Kent Lundberg for the graphics, and said the environmental impact report offers an opportunity to plan alignments with the least impact. Park Director indicated the results of the environmental review will be brought back to the Commission with final recommendations.

From the public, John Copeland said the Commission has often had to make tough decisions, and now this one must also. His concerns are that erosion makes some trails dangerous, could use a civil engineer to decide some routes, a proposed bridge and some new trail is important near day camp, the Annie Bidwell Trail is planned within sight and sound of the creek but that is not a condition of new trails from the manual, there is no demand for trail 22 so it could wait a very long time, and he has concerns about created by mountain bikes and they could be banned or kept on designated trails. Samantha Hillaire said to remember everyone loves the park and is working to make the trail system better, but she has concern about the whole philosophy of the project. Committee should designate major goals and how achievement will be measured, there should be data on current and proposed users, and there is already a high density of

trails per acre in this park.

COMMISSIONER WOOD MOVED TO CONCEPTUALLY APPROVE THE TRAIL PLAN FOR UPPER BIDWELL PARK AND PROCEED WITH THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSIS. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0.

5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

- 1. Director's Report** There will be meetings coming up on the Master Plan for Plaza Park. With the cooperation of BEC, there will be up to 485 trees planted throughout the community this year. Consider a date for the traditional spring tour of specific areas in Bidwell Park.
- 2. Monthly Reports** Received and filed
- 3. Incident Reports** Received and filed
- 4. Correspondence** From Kevin Sevier and Michael Jones; included with Trail/Safety Committee Report.

6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Susan Mason reminded everyone that trail maintenance days are the first Saturday of each month beginning at 8:00 a.m. at parking lot E.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 p.m. to the next regular meeting of February 25, 2002.

SIGN IN SHEET
JANUARY 28, 2002

	Name	Address
1.	Kathryn Hallron	1620 Muir Avenue
2.	Linda Stukey	1019 Muir Road
3.	George Grams	1045 Sir William Court
4.	Timothy Skaggs	1041 Sir William Court
5.	Michael Jones	2411 Notre Dame Blvd
6.	Joseph Chamberlain	1734 Oleander Street Apt A
7.	DNA	
8.	John Paul Guterrez	1586 East Avenue
9.	John Copeland	1650 Bidwell Avenue
10.	Samantha Hillaire	2925 Burnap Ave #12
11.	Susan Mason	PO Box 3036 Chico 95927

12. ATTACHMENT A

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
FEBRUARY 25, 2002
MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Present at Roll Call: Chair Wendy Coggins, Commissioners Glenn Dunning, Mary, Schreiber, David Wood, Michael Candela, Don Kidd, and Kathryn Tzikas; staff Park Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Chris Boza, Assistant City Attorney Alicia M. Rock, and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Minutes from Regular Meeting of January 28, 2002**
- 2. Approval of the 2002 Season Permit Applications from Chico Central Little League, Chico Area Recreation and Park District and Butte United Soccer League for use of Wildwood Park**
- 3. Approval Permit Application of Cyrcle Productions for Artisans Faire May 4, 5 and 6, 2002 - Plaza Park**
- 4. Permit Application from Ensemble Theatre of Chico - Shakespeare in the Park July 2, 2002 to August 22, 2002 - Cedar Grove Meadow and Picnic Area**
- 5. Permit Application from Chico Area Recreation and Park District for 43rd Annual Easter Jamoree - March 30, 2002 - Caper Acrea**
- 6. Permit Application from Geoff Lane for Reunion September 21 and 22, 2002 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. - Five Mile Recreation Area Reservable Picnic Area**

COMMISSIONER DUNNING MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0

3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS None

Chair Coggins moved Item 4.3 to be heard before Item 4.2

4. REGULAR AGENDA

- 1. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda** None

- 3. Consider Grant of License to Delores Willis - Upper Bidwell Park guided Trail Rides**

Park Director Beardsley said staff recommends granting the license with stated requirements. From the public, Delores Willis said there would be six or seven horses available with two trained for children, rides would be for one hour and \$20, there would for four rides offered on Saturday and Sunday, and the season would last into the fall determined by the weather. She asked to use the arena if trails are closed when she cannot notify those who have reservations; it would not be a conflict with the Equestrian Association. Park Director indicated Ms. Willis will have to make arrangements directly with the Association.

COMMISSIONER KIDD MOVED TO APPROVE GRANTING THE LICENSE.
COMMISSIONER TZIKAS SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

- 2. Consider Making a Recommendation to the Chico City Council Regarding a Preferred Alternative Relative to the Project of Widening of Manzanita Avenue, Chico Canyon Road and Bruce Road Between East Avenue and State Route 32**

Commissioner Dunning excused himself for personal and financial conflict of interest.

Four general recommendations on this project were made at the January BPPC regular meeting. At this meeting Commission is to consider what, if any, recommendation to make regarding a preferred design alternative to the project. Public comments on the EIR were taken until February 5, and responses to submitted comments will be made until February 16. No final Alternative will be selected before sometime in March or April and Commission can make recommendations until one is finalized.

From the public, Dan Cook of Manzanita Avenue by the Park Neighborhood Association asked Commission to take a position for no Alternative, or select Alternative B if they must. Glenn Dunning said he prefers Alternative 5, with some changes in the design of the roundabouts, because it takes little property; also he wants to retain trees and have no stop light on the corner of his property (Hooker Oak Avenue and Manzanita Avenue). Bill McDermott said Chico needs a belt system for

traffic and not more arteries with more stop lights. John Michael Sun said improvements increase traffic and would destroy anything that is left of the precious country feeling near the park; post a sign saying to slow down and appreciate the area. Doug Morrison said roundabouts work well but loss of trees is a poor tradeoff for a driver to gain 26 seconds. Naomi McDermott said trees improve air quality and those taken would be what Annie Bidwell left to preserve the beauty of Chico. Steve Dennis suggested it is for BPPC to preserve the corridor and tell Council this place is not bad the way it is.

Commissioner Coggins said she has not heard anybody say they wanted four lanes and Bidwell Park and Playground Commissioners responsibility is to protect the Park; CARD decided to make no recommendation; Commissioner Schreiber would like to make a recommendation after reading responses to the public comments. Commissioner Candela he likes Alternative 3 or 4 if he can be assured traffic would be prevented from turning left. Commissioner Kidd said someone will be unhappy, north/south traffic movement is necessary, and it is better to bite the bullet and do it now. He likes Alternative 2 best, 4 next, and 3 after that. In 20 years the public will thank us. Four lanes can look nice and trees can be put in to replace those taken. Commissioner Wood said Chico needs a big road and he likes Alternative 2 because it takes most trees from neighbors and not the Park; there should be no big trucks on this part of Manzanita. Tom Alexander, Senior Civil Engineer, said a study was adopted to provide a bypass from Highway 32 to Eaton Road and along to Manzanita/East Avenue intersection and back to Hwy 32. This area of the road is now designated a truck route.

COMMISSIONER KIDD MOVED TO RECOMMEND ALTERNATIVE 2 AS A PREFERRED OPTION. COMMISSIONER WOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WAS DEFEATED 2-4. AYES: COMMISSIONERS KIDD AND WOOD. NOES: COMMISSIONERS CANDELA, SCHREIBER, COGGINS AND TZIKAS.

COMMISSIONER WOOD MOVED TO REMOVE THE DESIGNATION OF TRUCK ROUTE IN THIS SECTION OF THE ROAD. COMMISSIONER KIDD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH FAILED IN A TIE OF 3-3. AYES: COMMISSIONERS WOOD, CANDELA AND KIDD. NOES: CHAIR COGGINS AND COMMISSIONERS SCHRIEBER AND TZITKIS.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF ALTERNATIVE 4. COMMISSIONER KIDD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH WAS DEFEATED 2-4. AYES: COMMISSIONERS CANDELA AND KIDD. NOES: CHAIR COGGINS AND COMMISSIONERS TZIKAS, SCHREIBER AND WOOD.

5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

1. Director's Report

There is one proposal for goat grazing, the first of two meetings on Plaza Park Master Plan is this Saturday; Chair will decide Commissioner's request for Committee service; the new tower truck begins service tomorrow; improvements are being made on Ten Mile Road; on March 5 City Council will be hearing an appeal regarding Park trails and a second appeal regarding an encroachment into Lindo Channel.

2. Monthly Report Received and filed

3. Incident Report Received and filed

4. Correspondence

A request from Christine Stenlund, of North Valley Blood Center, to develop a parking lot at the corner of Cohasset Road and Cohasset Lane referred to a Committee. An email from Norm Dillinger saying removal of undergrowth between One Mile and the freeway is undesirable.

6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR None

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 to the next regular meeting of March 25, 2002.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
SIGN IN SHEET
FEBRUARY 25, 2002

	name	address
1.	Delores Willis	
2.	Dan Cook	2096 Vallombrosa Avenue
3.	Glenn Dunning	2089 Hooker Oak Avenue
4.	Bill McDermott	1925 Manzanita Avenue
5.	John Michael Sun	1904 Broadway
6.	Doug Morrison	1929 Manzanita
7.	Naomi McDermott	1925 Manzanita
8.	Steve Dennis	RECOR CSUC 95929-0560

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
MINUTES
MARCH 25, 2002

1. CALL TO ORDER

Present at Roll Call: Chair Wendy Coggins, Commissioners Don Kidd, Kathryn Tzikas, Glenn Dunning, Mary Schreiber, and David Wood; Student Commissioner Jeff Schreiber; staff: Park Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Chris Boza, Assistant City Attorney Lori Barker, and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson. Absent: Commissioner Mike Candela.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Minutes from Regular Meeting of February 25, 2002**
- 2. Approve Application and Permit for Park Use from Do-It Leisure, Work Training Center, Chico Area Recreation and Park District and City of Chico 37th Annual 4th of July Community Celebration - One Mile Recreation Area**

COMMISSIONER DUNNING MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0. STUDENT COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER VOTED YES

3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS None

4. REGULAR AGENDA

- 1. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda** None
- 2. Consideration of a Proposal from the Chico Area Recreation and Park District (CARD) to Provide a Skateboard Camp - Humboldt Neighborhood Park**

Park Director Beardsley recommends approval of an experimental skateboard camp in June 2002 which could be expanded if successful. Mary Cahill, CARD, General Manager, said the camp would be for children ages 8 to 12 and held between 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. when the Park would be open to the public but not used a lot. It would be limited to 20 children, be educational about use of equipment, and the fee is not set yet. Commissioner Wood said he likes anything that gets kids to work on skills and develop interests.

COMMISSIONER KIDD MOVED TO APPROVE THE SKATEBOARD CAMP AT HUMBOLDT NEIGHBORHOOD PARK. COMMISSIONER TZIKAS SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0. STUDENT COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER VOTED YES.

3. Review and Consider Request for Funding from Specific Organizations or Project Sponsors

Commission is reviewing applications for community funds from Chico Creek Nature Center for \$60,960 and from Chico Cat Coalition for \$13,430.

Judy White, Executive Director of the Chico Creek Nature Center, and Lori Beth Mays, from the Cat Coalition, appeared to answer questions.

COMMISSIONER WOOD MOVED TO RECOMMEND CITY COUNCIL FINANCE COMMITTEE ACCEPT THE REQUEST FOR \$60,960 FROM CHICO CREEK NATURE CENTER. COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0. STUDENT COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER VOTED YES.

COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER MOVED TO RECOMMEND CITY COUNCIL FINANCE COMMITTEE ACCEPT THE REQUEST FOR \$13,430 FROM CHICO CAT COALITION. COMMISSIONER KIDD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0. STUDENT COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER VOTED YES.

4. Consider a Proposal for Memorial Tree Grove Sponsored by the Hollywood Beautification Team's September 11 Memorial Tree Planting Project in Memory of California Victims

Park Director Beardsley said this would be one of two memorials in the state for California victims of September 11. Funding would come from Hollywood Beautification Team and the City of Chico. Since staff is in the process of re-establishing a grove in Wildwood Park, there would be no additional allocation required.

From the public, Karen Laslo asked if the original trees died from being planted incorrectly and if the contractor was made to pay for damages? Mr. Boza stated too much time had passed to recover any damages. The new trees would be 15 gallon size of Shingle Oak, which do well in that location. He will oversee a community planting tentatively scheduled for April 27.

COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER MOVED TO APPROVED A MEMORIAL GROVE IN

WILDWOOD PARK. COMMISSIONER KIDD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0. STUDENT COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER VOTED YES.

Break from 8:10 to 8:20.

5. Trail/Safety Meeting of March 29, 2002

There is no action recommended in this committee report.

- a. Status Report on California Conservation Corps Trail Work - Upper Bidwell Park
California Conservation Corp spent 12 days working with staff in the Park and everyone learned a lot. It is hoped they will be back in the fall. Commissioner Wood said it is very good trail work.
- b. Discussion of Trail Open and Closed Signs
Symbols are being used, but it was observed that more contrast in colors is desirable. Two new signs were posted and Committee will discuss other options.
- c. Discussion of Need for a Disclaimer on any Future Trail Maps
Commissioner Wood said that a disclaimer, such as are used on ski trail maps, should be used for safety issues once trails are rated.
- d. Schedule Next Meeting to Review Possible Sites for Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge in Upper Bidwell Park
The meeting, which includes touring about ½ mile of the creek, has been scheduled for May 10, 2002 from 8:30 a.m. to noon. The public is invited

6. Consider Having Committee Chairs

Chair Coggins suggested having a Chair for each BPPC Committee to act as spokesperson. The following volunteered: Schreiber for Volunteer Committee, Candela for Preservation/Stream Committee, Tzikas for Tree/Finance Committee, Wood for Trail Safety Committee, Coggins for Bike Advisory Committee, Dunning for Master Management Plan, and Wood for Art Ad Hoc.

7. Meeting with the Chico City Council

City Council will meet with Boards and Commissions on May 21, 2002 to discuss

budget matters. BPPC would be given about 30 minutes to present items considered priority. No decision needs to be made now, and Tree/Finance Committee will be meeting soon to discuss it. Commissioner Coggins suggested promoting development of neighborhood parks. Commissioner Kidd asked about art work on freeway supports. Commissioner Dunning would like to talk about the bridge in Upper Park and to install restrooms at Humboldt Skateboard Park. Staff said the department is running smoothly now but increased staffing would help to continue providing the current level of work.

5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

1. Director's Report

Bids currently being considered are for road repairs and drainage work on Ten Mile House Road, landscape maintenance on 129 parcels, and to remove two elms in Plaza Park. Bids closed on construction of a fishing deck at Horseshoe Lake and Wildwood Park Phase 2 improvements. A water line in Caper Acres is being considered with the goal of getting rid of all wells. A contract has been signed with Terry Adams to put goats in Upper Park. He understand the security issues and someone will be there all night.

2. Monthly Reports Received and filed.

3. Incident Reports Received and filed.

4. Correspondence

A letter from Mark Sorensen regarding widening of Manzanita Avenue.

6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

1. Request from Kathie Russo to address the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission regarding Chapter 14.40 of the Chico Municipal Code

Kathie Russo referred to Chapter 14.40 of CMC, "Tree Law of the City of Chico," which designated BPPC to protect the trees along Manzanita and throughout the city. She requested that all applications to remove a tree come before the commission, and that these trees in the Manzanita and Hooker Oak area be declared a sanctuary and preservation for old growth.

From the public, Richard Redmond, Sr. said these trees are endangered and BPPC has the ability to say cutting them is a bad idea.

Park Director Beardsley said that public comments on the EIR are no longer being accepted, but the public can comment at the Council meeting and public hearing on May 7, 2002. Review of the EIR is out of the hands of BPPC now and no motion on that issue can be put on the agenda. No action was taken.

2. Request from Alan Gair to address the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission regarding appointment of a sub-committee to study the effects of the widening of Manzanita Avenue, Chico Canyon Road, and Bruce Road between East Avenue and State Route 32 project on trees, habitat in Bidwell Park and neighboring areas

Alan Gair said the EIR study is inadequate and does not address all important issues. The City should gather a group of qualified people to study all effects. Plan B uses roundabouts instead of nine traffic lights in 1.5 miles, costs less than the other alternatives, keeps within the existing road bed and has no impact on the environment.

Lin Jensen said it is the responsibility of BPPC to protect the trees whenever possible. It is still possible to leave Manzanita as it is.

Nell Cook said everyone realizes that Manzanita has to carry more traffic and the project should be called “help for traffic flow”, not “a plan to widen the street.”

Susan Mason asked Commission to look into protecting the historical flume near Bear Hole.

Karen Laslo said people are angry about the many trees being taken down around town and get upset with the idea of even more coming down.

Jim Brobeck requested a regular report on the status of State Bill 1605, which deals with the City’s ability to sell or trade land in Lindo Channel. BPPC should be letting the public know what is happening with it. Chair Coggins asked to put an update on the bill on the next agenda.

Commissioner Dunning said the widening of Manzanita Avenue is a project that had been going on for a long time but the public did not come to the earlier meetings. Those who object to a project need to show up in the early discussions or it can be too late. No action was taken.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m to the next regular meeting of April 29, 2002.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
MARCH 25, 2002
SIGN IN SHEET

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
1.	Karen Lasso	
2.	Katherine Russo	23 Roble Vista Court, Chico
3.	Richard E. Redmond, Sr.	1740 Citrus Avenue
4.	Alan Gair	6 Surround Court Chico 95926
5.	Lin Jensen	
6.	Nell Cook	2096 Vallombrosa
7.	Susan Mason	PO Box 3036 Chico 95927
8.	Jim Brobeck	1605 Manzanita Chico 95926

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
APRIL 29, 2002
MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Present at Roll Call: Acting Chair Michael Candela, Commissioners Don Kidd, Kathryn Tzikas, Glenn Dunning, Mary Schreiber, and David Wood; Student Commissioner Jeff Schreiber; staff: Park Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Chris Boza, Assistant City Attorney Alicia M. Rock, and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson. Absent: Chair Wendy Coggins. (Coggins arrived at approximately 8:15 p.m.).

2. CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Minutes from Regular Meeting of March 25, 2002**
- 2. Request for Memorial Bench - Picnic Site 12 Adjacent El Monte Avenue Entrance**
- 3. Request for Memorial Bench - Horseshoe Lake**

COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER KIDD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0. STUDENT COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER VOTED AYE.

3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS None

4. REGULAR AGENDA

- 1. Items removed from the Consent Agenda** None

Acting Chair Candela requested that Commission hear Item 4.3b before Item 4.2.

4.3 Master Management Plan Committee Meeting of April 23, 2002

- b. Receive and Consider Information from Interested Citizens Regarding Potential Improvements Along Manzanita Avenue**

Commissioner Dunning excused himself for conflict of interest.

Dan Cook spoke for the Manzanita Avenue by the Park Neighborhood Association and displayed several drawings of how Manzanita Avenue would change under the Neighborhood Plan B as it goes from Wildwood Avenue to Highway 32. He described the plan as two lanes from the Elks Club to Sandy Gulch (Lindo Channel) and two bike lanes with no traffic control devices installed. The existing bridge at the Lindo Channel Greenway remains for vehicular traffic. There would be a separate footbridge upstream for a walkway, bike lanes and equestrians and a footbridge downstream for a walkway and bikes. From the Lindo Channel Greenway to Centennial Avenue, there would be two traffic lanes. Roundabouts would be installed at the intersections of Hooker Oak and Vallombrosa Avenue with demand call button signals. The road would remain two lanes with two bike lanes to California Park Drive; then transition into five traffic lanes to Highway 32. The capacity of two lanes is greater where there are no cross streets. Mr. Cook was not certain the Environmental Impact Report adequately addressed the PG& E transmission power lines.

Chair Coggins arrived at 8:00.

Commissioner Kidd asked about a wide truck driving on the roundabout. Mr. Cook said the wheels are more narrow than the load and one must also have a special permit from the City, County and Caltrans so it would be fine. Commissioner Kidd asked if roundabouts so close together could cause a problem. Mr. Cook said one at Vallombrosa Avenue and another at Centennial is not a good idea, but ones at Hooker Oak Avenue and at Vallombrosa Avenue would not create a feedback to each other the way stop lights could.

Commissioner Candela suggested it would be prudent to provide more room for possible expansion after the roundabouts and two lanes have been used for a while if they prove to be inadequate.

Park Director Beardsley said the issues are protecting the trees, keeping the park connected, and getting pedestrians across Manzanita Avenue in a safe way that does not impede traffic flow. Probably a well lighted design for underground pedestrian crossing would encourage more use.

Break from 8:30 to 8:45.

Open for public comment:

Jim Brobeck believes Plan B is a wise use of public funds, preserves the

integrity of the Park, and protects the trees. He urges support.

Catherine Fish has been working to find a solution and asked for feedback from other groups in the City. She named several organizations she had talked to where 95% were in favor of Plan B and the others have not studied the issue. She urged Commission to keep the plan simple and save as many trees as possible.

Kathi Russo wanted to remind Commission they have submitted 1,900 signature for endorsement of Plan B as explained by Dan Cook.

Alan Gair likes the support for Plan B and resents the cavalier attitude of some developers and staff. The trees are as important as a traffic plan. Plan B is a carefully worked out plan by a specialist and some suggested alterations show that it is not understood. "See that Plan B is adopted" advised Gair.

Mark Sorensen said Plan B is designed to accommodate traffic increases. It takes us in the right direction and is a reasonable choice for Chico.

Francine Gair is pleased the roundabouts seem to be well accepted, but the bridge would have to be raised 8.6 feet to accommodate pedestrians passing underneath. That would not allow time for a roundabout at Vallombrosa Avenue. Construction on the bridge would cost \$500,00 and possibly put it out of service for six months.

Doug Morrison has major concerns for the City's tweaking of Plan B. Other alternatives involve an expense of moving a transmission line and an elevated bridge. Plan B in the original form is adequate and he urges Commission to recommend it to Council.

Bill McDermott, who has lived on the corridor for 34 years, suggests that other parts of Chico have worse traffic problems than Manzanita Avenue so don't do anything now as it may not be necessary. "In planning for the future, roundabouts are safer than lights and cost for less," he added.

Mark William Kitch is a former regional planner and traffic planner. He thinks Highway 32 could do the job and urges no plans to change what is best. Side effects of increased traffic on Manzanita Avenue will hurt other neighborhoods as increased traffic flow encourages more traffic. You can not replace what you tear down, he indicated.

Richard E. Redmond, president of the Audubon Society, has heard nothing but positive information from members about not taking down any trees. He believes there will be a battle if the plan would do that.

Karen Laslo said, “Commissioners are on the Park Commission and do not need to come up with a traffic plan, but only protect the park. Plan B does the least damage to the park.”

Karen Bull owns a home and stable on Centennial built in 1950's. She thinks the downstream bridge is a good part of Plan B to take a load off Manzanita. Bring together bike riders and equestrians to do public education for safety at the bridge. She thinks a tunnel would not be safe for some equestrians and favors a demand light for them to cross the road. They could purchase a magnetic swipe card and there would not be a great deal of use to delay traffic.

End of public hearing at 9:15

4.2 Review and Consider Making a Recommendation to the Chico City Council on the Final Environmental Impact Report and Environmental Assessment on the Project of Widening Manzanita Avenue, Chico Canyon Road and Bruce Road Between East Avenue and State Route 32. In addition, the Commission may take action expressing an opinion on what, if any, improvement are preferred.

Commissioner Dunning excused himself since he lives within the project area.

Commissioner Kidd asked about the number and sizes of current roundabouts in Chico. Commissioner Wood said there are many variables to be considered in constructing each. Commissioner Schreiber does not believe BPPC's job should be traffic police but to protect as much of the park as they can. Chair Coggins thinks Council is looking to BPPC for a specific recommendation.

From the public, Michael Jones said to be sure that public recreation works from lower to upper park and that there be a trail under Lindo Channel Greenway bridge. It is difficult to get across Manzanita so support a good tunnel. Plan B is inadequate, in Jones' thinking.

Alan Gair said to set up safe arrangements for all to cross. Roundabouts in Europe are safe and traffic safety records there are superior to that in the United States.

Francine Gair said Commissioners are reluctant to say what plan is better but be

courageous to tell Council what you think. Not taking out trees should make Plan B the best.

Don Cook expressed appreciation that their plan has been heard so well.

Commissioner Candela confirmed that Alternative 2 took out the most trees, Alternative 5 (modified Plan B) took out the second most, and neighborhood Plan B took out the least except for doing nothing at all. He appreciates that Council purchased the additional park acreage and we can take back 1/4 acre for this project. He supports the concept of a walkway under Manzanita and a foot bridge west of Manzanita. Put in two lanes with roundabouts now and have enough room for four lanes if it becomes necessary at some point of time.

Commissioner Wood likes the concept of a trail along Lindo Channel Greenway. Horses are afraid of a lot of things and might not go through a tunnel so look at a demand light with swipe cards to give them more time. Move traffic but be kind to the park and consider the appearance.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO RECOMMEND COUNCIL CHOOSE AN ALTERNATIVE THAT IMPACTS THE PARK AS LITTLE AS POSSIBLE, SUPPORT THE CONCEPT OF A WALKWAY UNDER MANZANITA, AND RAISE THE BRIDGE OVER BIG CHICO CREEK FOR CLEARANCE. THERE WAS NO SECOND

COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER MOVED TO RECOMMEND COUNCIL SUPPORT A POLICY THAT IMPACTS THE PARK THE LEAST. COMMISSIONER TZIKAS SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-1. AYES: COMMISSIONERS KIDD, TZIKAS, SCHREIBER, CANDELA AND WOOD AND STUDENT COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER. NOES: CHAIR COGGINS.

- 3. Master Management Plan Committee (Dunning, Kidd and Schreiber) Meeting of April 23, 2002**
 - a. Consider request from the Sacramento Medical Foundation to use a portion of property within Lindo Channel - corner of Cohasset Road and Cohasset Lane.**

Committee Chair Dunning said the Committee approved the concept because there would be sufficient space to the channel bank and the land is already being used for several purposes. The Blood Center will move in 3 to 5 years so it will not be making big improvements. It would also provide public parking after hours. The front part of the land is a City right-of-way and the back is

part of Sandy Gulch. He thinks the City is getting itself in a bind over parcels where there can be no encroachments but it may be ridiculous not to.

Shirley Johnson, a representative of the Blood Bank, said the blood center parking was adequate until the cancer center opened. Their building is sold and they are leasing it back so this is a temporary request. There are inadequate spaces for staff, staff vans, and donors and this land would double the spaces available.

Alan Gair said encroachments cannot be allowed and, if his staff was taking all of the parking spaces, he would tell them to park somewhere else.

Gregg Payne asked where the public could legally park to use the channel. Channel access parking is needed.

Susan Mason agrees there is some area on the easement where they could use some spaces and strips on the street would give more also.

Elizabeth Tice, speaking for John Ost, said to designate the park space with a barrier so there would be no encroachment. Remember the conditions set in the encroachment policies for 25 feet from the bank, three feet from the sidewalk, and not go beyond the drip line of existing trees.

COMMISSIONER KIDD MOVED TO DENY THE REQUEST FOR PARKING ON PROPERTY WITHIN LINDO CHANNEL. COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-1. AYES: CHAIR COGGINS, COMMISSIONERS KIDD, TZIKAS, SCHREIBER, CANDELA AND WOOD, AND STUDENT COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER. NOES: COMMISSIONER DUNNING.

b. Receive and consider information from interest citizens regarding potential improvements along Manzanita Avenue

Action was taken on 4.2 above.

c. Consider request for bicycle rental concession in Bidwell Park

Committee Chair Dunning said vendors have requested concession in the park in the past and Committee recommends staff develop a policy and bring it back to Commission. Commissioner Candela said former concessions failed because they did not make enough money, not because they were banned.

Commissioner Schreiber said there is no problem with the concession, but it should go out to bid.

From the public, Julian Bass said he runs Chico Surry in a business zone near the park and he thinks concessions in the park would be wrong. It needs to be protected and should not be exploited for business. An agreement for horse tours in Upper Park has a different nature as the tours are controlled and not run free will as bikes would do.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO HAVE STAFF PREPARE A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR COMMISSION REVIEW. COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0. STUDENT COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER VOTED YES.

d. Consider new law regarding tobacco use in playgrounds - Section 104495 of the Health and Safety Code.

A new law prohibits tobacco-related products within playgrounds. The code does not require signage but signs would aid enforcement by the Rangers.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO IMPLEMENT SIGNS ON THIS LAW AT CAPER ACRES AND CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND. COMMISSIONER WOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0. STUDENT COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER VOTED YES.

4. Trail/Safety Committee (Wood, Kidd and Candela) meeting of April 12, 2002

Review segments of the Yahi Trail at Parking Lot Q and the Salmon Hole parking lot

Committee Chair Wood said the meeting was held on site. A citizen raised the question of stairs as part of the trail and, after talking to City Attorney, staff has indicated that they be removed. Park Director Beardsley said the issue could be folded into the upcoming EIR. In the original proposal, the Planning Department provided a categorical exemption for re-establishing the Yahi Trail assuming it was maintenance on an existing trail and the majority of the trail would be on existing alignment. Now that may not apply. However, any area of a project can be pulled and reviewed.

From the public, Michael Jones said the trail was flagged two years ago, including the stair area, and no one brought up any concerns about the stairs, which were clearly shown and are by Trails Manual standards. It does not seem right it was approved originally if it needs an Environmental Impact Report now. He has purchased \$3,000 of wood to use and asks Commission to reconsider.

Assistant City Attorney Rock said increased use of the trail takes the proposed stairs out of the categorical exemption category and creates a need for a more detailed environmental review.

COMMISSIONER DUNNING MOVED TO INCLUDE THIS AREA OF THE YAHU TRAIL IN THE BIGGER EIR. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-1. YES: COMMISSIONERS KIDD, TZIKAS, DUNNING, SCHREIBER, CANDELA AND WOOD, AND STUDENT COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER. NO: CHAIR COGGINS.

5. Trail Safety Committee (Wood, Kidd and Candela) Meeting of April 24, 2002.

- a. Review and Discussion of the Bidwell Park Trails Manual**
Park Director Beardsley said these items are for reporting only. He has some suggested language regarding the width of trails for the manual which he will bring back.
- b. Status report on trail work being done in Upper Bidwell Park**
- c. Status report on preparation of request for proposals for Bidwell Park trail environmental review.**

Commissioner Wood said he would like to make some changes in trail classification and include references to difficulty and loops. Park Director Beardsley indicated that suggestions that were made to the Trail/Safety Committee will be included and be part of design and environmental review for the Upper Bidwell Park Trail Plan. This item was placed on the agenda of May 28, 2002 for review and approval.

6. Ad Hoc Art Committee (Wood, Coggins, Kidd) Meeting of April 18, 2002

Review and discussion of preliminary proposal for art in Lower Bidwell Park

The committee met at the site of the freeway overpass to discuss art work on the big concrete pillars below. The next step is to ask Caltrans for permission to do the work Art work that will hopefully discourage graffiti.

Artist Gregg Payne showed samples of what he proposes to paint there. He would keep it natural and use several shades that would be easy to repair. The cost for two panels would be \$3,000, six panels at \$6,000.

From the public, Elizabeth Tice said her family are artists so she approves the concept,

but she is concerned about where the money will come from since there are more things needed to be done in the Park. Julian Bass or Josephine Guardino said there may be a need for an Environmental Impact Report to work under a bridge where birds may be nesting. Lynn Thomas asked that any art work in the park be done of nature.

COMMISSIONER DUNNING MOVED TO REQUEST PERMISSION FROM CALTRANS TO PAINT PANELS AND WALLS UNDER THE FREEWAY. COMMISSIONER TZIKAS SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0. STUDENT COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER VOTED YES.

7. **Tree/Finance Committee (Tzikas, Coggins, Dunning) Meeting of April 22, 2002**

Consider items to discuss with the City Council at the May City Council/ BPPC meeting. Chair Coggins invited all commissioners to attend the meeting of May 23 in Conference Room 1 starting at 7:00 p.m.. Each commission gets one-half hour with Council to present their budget items for priority.

COMMISSIONER DUNNING MOVED TO PRESENT A RECOMMENDATION TO BUDGET THE PARK DEPARTMENT'S STRATEGIC PLAN, NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS, AND TREE PRESERVATION ORDINANCE. COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0. STUDENT COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER VOTED YES.

5. **REPORTS AND COMMISSIONS**

1. **Director's Report**

The spring tour is set for May 11 at 8:30 a.m. starting at One Mile. The clean up day for First and Verbena is the same date so the tour could include First and Verbena, One Mile, Upper Park and the Observatory.

2. **Urban Forester's Report**

An update on Plaza trees was sent to Council in March. Two additional Elms will be removed in May. There is concern about two oaks in children's Playground and a bid will go to remove them. There was an emergency removal of a tree that needed to come down. The public is kept fully aware of tree status through press releases.

3. **Monthly Reports**

Received and filed

4. **Incident Reports**

Received and filed.

5. **Correspondence**

Correspondence items are listed under business from the Floor.

6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

1. Request from Jim Brobeck to Agendize Lindo Channel Encroachment Policies and Procedures.

Mr. Brobeck thanked Commissioner for listening to his concerns regarding SB 1605, which was withdrawn by Rico Oller. He is also concerned about escape of invasive plants from neighboring areas into Lindo Channel. He has identified sites of biological encroachments and wants to put the issue on the agenda to educate the public and make them aware of all effects. Current laws are not being enforced. The item was directed to the Stream/Preservation Committee for review and recommendation.

2. Request from Jim Brobeck to Agendize Unintentional Introduction of Invasive Plants into the Lindo Channel Greenway

Mr. Brobeck wants to let people know how destructive Arundo is and would like to give a presentation at a future meeting to raise the consciousness of how severe it is and the need for action to eliminate it. Public awareness would help eliminate it on private property as well.

3. Request from Josephine Guardino, et al, to Agendize Matters Relating to Trail Maintenance Including Staffing, Supervision of Volunteers, and Updating the Bidwell Park Master Management Plan

Ms. Guardino brought 107 signatures in support of Commission asking City Council for funding to hire a professional to oversee all aspects of work in the Park. They also support an update of the Master Management Plan. This item was directed to the Trail/Safety Committee for review and recommendations.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 p.m. to the next regular meeting of May 28, 2002.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
MAY 28, 2002
MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Present at Roll Call: Chair Wendy Coggins, Commissioners Don Kidd, Glenn Dunning, Mary Schreiber, Michael Candela, David Wood, Student Commissioner Jeff Schreiber; staff: Park Director Dennis Beardsley, Assistant City Attorney, Alicia M. Rock, and Administrative Secretary, Janice Heckerson. Absent: Commissioner Kathryn Tzikas.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes from Regular Meeting of April 29, 2002

This item was removed from Consent Agenda by Chair Coggins

2. Minutes from Adjourned Regular Meeting of May 22, 2002

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO ACCEPT ITEM 2 OF THE CONSENT AGENDA. COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0. STUDENT COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER VOTED AYE.

3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

4. REGULAR AGENDA

1. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

Minutes from Regular Meeting of April 29, 2002.

Page 2 should show that Chair Coggins arrived at 8:15.

COMMISSIONER KIDD MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF APRIL 29, 2002 AS AMENDED. COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0. STUDENT COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER VOTED AYE.

2. Presentation on Control of Arundo Donax (Giant Reed)

Richard Holman said we have non-native, invasive plants in Lindo Channel, Big Chico Creek and Little Chico Creek. CalFed has recognized removal of Arundo as one of its top four priorities because of issues on ecology and flooding. This presentation is to answer questions on what it looks like, where to find it, how to get rid of it and why it

should be done.

Kristin Carter showed slides and spoke. Arundo was brought into Southern California for flood control, but it is not effective for that, soon grew out of control and moved up north. It takes over large areas of land and does not allow anything else to grow. It likes the warmer weather in the valley and would not be in the mountains. Rhizomes break off and flow down a creek to take hold and begin new infestations that can reroute the stream. It raises the Ph balance, allows algae to grow, and warms the water downstream.

The Sacramento River is badly infected and that threatens endangered salmon, but tributaries need to be cleaned before starting on the river. When looking for funding, agencies prefer big proposals that deal with many problems in one stream or an eradication plan on several streams.

Tamarix is another plant threatening this area. It has replaced up to 70% of the native plants in some areas of the state. It is conducive to fires, is 33% more likely to burn than most natives, and comes back strongly after a fire. Rodeo is the best herbicide to use for removal and best applied by hand wand. Timing of the treatment is a key to success and fall is best time.

Park Director Beardsley said the goal is to remove Arundo from Big Chico Creek completely in five years. With more funding, we could address the problem in Lindo Channel. He recommends putting together a package for Big Chico Creek and Lindo Channel. Even a smaller request for funding of about \$25,000 for Little Chico Creek would be helpful. Staff will bring suggestions back to the Commission.

3. Consider the Appeal of Sandy Goulart, 824 Brookwood Way, Regarding Removal of Encroachments - Lindo Channel Greenway

Property owner Goulart requested a second extension of six months for removal of encroachments due to continued financial hardship. Park Director Beardsley explained this is not an appeal to leave the encroachments but a request to extend the deadline for removal. From the public, Sandy Goulart said she may not be able to come up with the money in the next six months either. Replacement of fencing would cost \$3,000 and irrigation must be replaced also.

COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER MOVED TO GRANT THE EXTENSION. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-1. AYES: CHAIR COGGINS, COMMISSIONERS SCHREIBER, CANDELA, KIDD, AND DUNNING. NOES: COMMISSIONER WOOD. STUDENT COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER VOTED AYE.

4. Consider Revisions to Chapter 12R.04, Entitled, “Rules Generally” of the Chico Municipal Code

Chair Coggins said all discussion had been done in committee meetings. From the public, Elizabeth Tice agreed City’s best interest should require children under age five be accompanied by an adult.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO RECOMMEND COUNCIL APPROVE THE REVISIONS AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER KIDD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0. STUDENT COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER VOTED AYE.

5. Review and Consider Recommendation from the Trail/Safety Committee (Candela, Kidd, and Chair Wood) to Amend the Bidwell Park Trails Manual

Committee Chair Wood said the additional language recommended for the Trails Manual would make trail width consistent with the existing conditions rather than determined by wording in the Manual. From the public, Jim Brobeck supports the idea of consistency with geography instead of the Manual.

COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER MOVED TO APPROVE THE ADDITION TO THE TRAILS MANUAL AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER KIDD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0. STUDENT COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER VOTED AYE.

6. Preservation/Stream Committee (Chair Candela, Dunning and Wood) Meeting of May 8, 2002

A. Review and consideration of proposed public information/ interpretative sign relating to water safety - Bear Hole Parking Area - Upper Bidwell Park

Committee Chair Candela said the committee has been working with Michael Collins on the sign for Bear Hole, has proposed some changes, and recommends proceeding to the final design.

From the public, Michael Collins said this informational sign is his class project. It is to alert the public to water dangers and give information on water safety. Josephine Guardino asked why put the sign at Bear Hole instead of where people come into the park and suggested keeping park signs consistent.

COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER MOVED TO APPROVE THE TEXT AND FORMAT OF THE SIGN. COMMISSIONER KIDD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

STUDENT COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER VOTED AYE.

B. Request to discuss Sudden Oak Death Syndrome

Sudden Oak Death Syndrome has effected trees on the coast but now is coming into the valley. Committee would like to make the public aware of how spread of the disease can be minimized. Any transportation can bring it into our area, especially from running or biking events.

From the public, Susan Mason said the Wild Flower ride was coming up. Pass along the information to Chico Velo and bike groups. Jim Brobeck suggested participants be asked to clean their equipment and bring clean bikes into this area.

COMMISSIONER KIDD MOVED TO INCLUDE A NOTIFICATION ON SUDDEN OAK DEATH SYNDROME ON PAPERWORK FOR A PARK USE PERMIT. COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0. STUDENT COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER VOTED AYE.

C. Request from Jim Brobeck to discuss Lindo Channel encroachment polices and procedures.

Committee discussed the issue of non-native plant encroachments. From the public, Jim Brobeck said he walked one mile in Lindo Channel and found 10 escaped woody plants, 8 yard waste dumps, 4 construction debris sites, and two places where herbicide were scorching plants. He realizes there are budget constraints but staff needs to identify such sites. It would be less expensive to get rid of them now, before the problems grow.

Josephine Guardino said the Department of Agriculture has classified weeds so we could target those

known
to be
most
invasive
. Also
tell
neighbo
rs their
plants
can
spread
into the
park.

Park Director Beardsley said we have waited six years to receive the capacity study and go forward on the Lindo Channel Master Management Plan. There is no policy yet but perhaps a separate vegetation management program for the area is needed now. The first step is to get funding to identify the problem areas, but there are no resources to eradicate them. No action required.

D. Discussion of vegetation management program

Commissioner Wood provided Committee information on alternative ways to control invasive plants in the Park. It would supplement work of goats with chemical attack and greater use of hand crews. From the public, Josephine Guardino said there are lots of weeds in the park so look at the big plan before deciding which to target. She would start in the more remote areas. No action required.

7. Report from Trail/Safety Committee (Candela, Kidd and Chair Wood) Meeting of May 10, 2002

Review and discussion of possible locations for bridge in Upper Bidwell Park

Committee walked Yahi Trail between parking area I and area G to look for possible locations for a future bridge over Big Chico Creek. Their suggestions will be used in making final recommendations for the bridge after the EIR is completed. No action required.

8. Authorization to Remove Chain Link Fence at the East First Avenue and Verbena Avenue Park Site

During the Commission's tour of the First and Verbena Park site on May 11, questions came up about the need to keep the chain link fence that separates the area from Lindo

Channel. There appears to be no purpose and it impedes public use of the property.
Staff recommends removal pending environmental review.

COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER MOVED TO RECOMMEND REMOVAL OF THE CHAIN LINK FENCE. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0. STUDENT COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER VOTED AYE.

5. REPORTS AND COMMISSIONS

1. Director's Report

A. Vegetation Management Program

Goat grazing for this season was completed on May 21. An evaluation of the work follows.

B. Urban Forester Report

Received and filed.

C. Council Actions/Correspondence

Council approved a plan for widening Manzanita that leaves the street at two lanes across Bidwell Park.

A letter from Park Director Beardsley to Dan Rey of CALFED protesting the recommendation not to fund a new dam for One Mile.

2. Monthly Reports

Received and filed.

3. Incident Reports

Filed on Bidwell Park, Caper Acres, Children's Park, Dorothy Johnson Center, Hooker Oak Park, Oakway Park, 20th Street Park, and City Plaza.

4. Correspondence

A letter from Gloria Bettencourt regarding proposed art on freeway pillars.

6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

None

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 to the next regular meeting of June 24, 2002.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
SIGN IN SHEET
MAY 28, 2002

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
1.	Sandy Goulart	824 Brookwood Way, Chico
2.	Elizabeth Tice	605 Vilas Road, Chico
3.	Jim Brobeck	
4.	Michael Collins	
5.	Josephine Guardino	
6.	Susan Mason	Box 3036, Chico

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
JUNE 24,2002
MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

1. Roll Call

Present: Chair Wendy Coggins, Commissioners Don Kidd, Glenn Dunning, Mary Schreiber, Michael Candela and David Wood; staff Park Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Chris Boza, Assistant City Attorney Alicia M. Rock, and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson.

2. Introduction and Recognition of Park Watch Volunteers

Park Ranger Bob Donohue introduced Larry Jackson, current Chair for the Park Watch Steering Committee. Mr. Jackson explained the function of the group and said 25 people have completed training this spring. He introduced those present. Chair Coggins presented each with a certificate of completion and thanked the group for its work in the park.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes from Regular Meeting of May 28, 2002

2. Approve Application and Permit for Park Use from California Army National Guard for Training in Upper Bidwell Park

Commissioner Dunning requested this item be removed from the Consent Agenda.

3. Approve Applicant and Permit for Park Use from the Trinity United Methodist Church for a Peace Event on August 6, 2002 in Plaza Park

4. Request from Earl and Susan Nance for Garden Permit in Lindo Channel

COMMISSIONER KIDD MOVED TO APPROVE ITEMS 1, 3 AND 4 OF THE CONSENT AGENDA. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS None

4. REGULAR AGENDA

1. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

Approve Application and Permit for Park Use from California Army National Guard for Training in Upper Bidwell Park

From the public, Kurtis Kueter and Jon Simmons of the California Army National Guard said their unit has 12 training events a year on the first weekend of each month and maybe six would be in the Park. They would be teaching land navigation and such skills, would be wearing full fatigues, but would have no guns. There could be from five to 20 participants, usually about ten, and there is always someone at the armory to accept calls when the unit is out training. Dorothy Reeve asked if they are hampered by public watching their activities. Kurtis said the public can view from a safe distance but not be involved.

Commissioner Dunning asked how the public would be notified. Park Director Beardsley said staff could send out press releases.

COMMISSIONER DUNNING MOVED TO APPROVE THE PERMIT FOR TRAINING.
COMMISSIONER KIDD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

2. Approve Application and Permit for Park Use from the Greater Chico Kiwanis Club for an Astro Camp at the Kiwanis Chico Community Observatory in July and August 2002

Park Director Beardsley explained the permit is for nine all-night camps at the Observatory in Upper Park during July and August for youths from ages 10 to 18. The gates would be locked, but the leader would have a key to use if necessary. Commissioner Candela said the camp sounds good and he hopes it will continue.

From the public, Kris Koenig said there would be ten youths and two adults attending and they could sleep in the observatory. He said the facility has been kept busy and thanked staff for all of their help in the past.

COMMISSIONER KIDD MOVED TO APPROVE THE PERMIT FOR ASTRO CAMP.
COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

3. Consider Recommendation to the City Council Regarding Applying for Grant Funds Made Available from Butte County's Per Capita Grant Allocation from

Proposition 12

Park Director Beardsley said the Board of Supervisors has approved the allocation of the County funds under Prop 12. The City of Chico's portion is a total of \$204,426 and he recommends improvements in Bidwell Park and Wildwood Park as follows:

- 1) Replacement of pedestrian/bike bridge at Forest Avenue for \$100,00,
- 2) Wildwood Park Phase II improvements playground equipment for \$79,200
- 3) Lighting improvements at One Mile for \$25,226

Work at Wildwood Park is ready to be done this summer and the other two items could be completed in 2003.

From the public, Ted Thomson remarked that the bridge at Highway 99 is close to the Cal Trans bridge. Park Director Beardsley said that Cal Trans will not be building for about ten years and the City's new bridge would be manufactured so could be moved if needed.

COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER MOVED TO APPROVE TO RECOMMENDATIONS TO CITY COUNCIL. COMMISSIONER KIDD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

4. Items Added After Posting of the Agenda Report from Trail/Safety Committee Meeting of May 20, 2002 (Candela, Kidd and Chair Wood)

a. Request to discuss various matters regarding trails

This item is carried over to the Committee meeting of June 26, 2002

b. Trail design standards

Staff was asked to determine two locations in the park where flexible water bars can be tested for a year or two for erosion control.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO PROCEED WITH THE EXPERIMENT.
COMMISSIONER KIDD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0

c. Request from Michael Jones to consider additional signs in Upper Bidwell Park

This item is carried over to the Committee meeting of June 26, 2002.

d. Use of treated wood

Committee recommends use of recycled materials as appropriate, and would like to inset that into the Trail Manual to make the intent clear. Staff will come back with the wording.

COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER MOVED TO APPROVE THE TRAIL MANUAL CHANGE.
COMMISSIONER KIDD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

1. Director's Report

Work on Wildwood Park Phase II is under way; water from Horseshoe Lake will be drawn down and refilled as fast as possible for the construction of the fishing deck in July; Council approved acceptance of \$11,000 from the Brooks Field Committee to install play equipment at Wildwood Park; Council extended all pending encroachments to August, 2004 to allow time for legislation to be prepared.

A draft request proposal for Upper Park trail EIR will be discussed at a public meeting on Monday, July 1. Park Director Beardsley requested there not be a quorum of Park commissioners at that meeting because of the Brown Act. Commissioner Wood said he would like to have input on the selection of the person to do the EIR. Park Director Beardsley said that is an administrative process done by staff and Commission can respond to the report. The Planning Department will receive all responses, then ultimately make the selection and proceed. Park Department is mostly for resource.

Urban Forester Boza presented a report on the removal of elm trees from Plaza Park. The City has done extensive evaluation of the trees and removed those determined to have the highest risk factor. All are in decline and some remedial work has been done. Even trees that appear to be healthy can have structural failure. He has done a post mortem on the two elms recently removed and showed photos of the condition of the trunks inside. Some wall thickness was a maximum of two inches within a 30 feet diameter and was hollow for at least 30 feet length. Commissioners requested the photos be published or put on the internet so the public will know there is justification for removal.

2. Monthly Reports

Received and filed.

3. Incident Reports

Received and filed

4. Correspondence

None

6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

None

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 to the next regular meeting of July 29, 2002.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
JUNE 24, 2002
SIGN IN

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
1.	Kurtis Keuter	2166 Shoshone Avenue #6
2.	Jon Simmons	595 Sunset Drive Paradise
3.	Kris E. Konig	1025 Rushmore Avenue
4.	Ted Thomsen	1377 Woodland

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
JULY 29, 2002
MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

1. Roll Call

Present: Chair Wendy Ledgerwood, Commissioners Don Kidd, Glenn Dunning, Mary Schreiber, Michael Candela and David Wood; staff Park Director Dennis Bearsley, Urban Forester Chris Boza, Assistant City Attorney Alicia M. Rock, and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson

2. Special Recognition of Upward Bound Program

Park Ranger Steve Hogue said that Upward Bound is a program to motivate economically and educationally disadvantaged high school students in achieving higher school and career goals. Part of the program is community service and Upward Bound students have donated 3,000 hours to working in Bidwell Park over the past nine years. In July , 2002, nearly 140 students painted all of the picnic tables and garbage cans in Lower Bidwell Park. Chair Ledgerwood presented a plaque to Vaming Xiong, representative of Upward Bound, in appreciation for the work done.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes from Regular Meeting of June 24, 2002

Commissioner Dunning requested this item be removed from the Consent Agenda.

3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS None

4. REGULAR AGENDA

1. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

Minutes from the Regular Meeting of June 24, 2002

Commissioner Dunning said Item 4.3 1) should read cost of "replacement of the bridge at Forest Avenue for \$100,000".

COMMISSIONER DUNNING MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS CORRECTED.
COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

2. Report from Trail/Safety Committee (Candela, Kidd and Chair Wood) Meeting of June 26, 2002

a. Request to discuss various matters regarding trails

Citizens have requested a comprehensive trail maintenance and development plan for Upper Bidwell Park, training and supervision of volunteers who work on trails, and an update of the Bidwell Park Master Management Plan. Committee said the EIR in progress will be updating the Trails Manual so many issues will be addressed when the EIR is completed. There has been a request to hire a Senior Maintenance Worker who would supervise volunteers as part of his/her job but Council has put personnel requests on hold until November. It is a good idea to have volunteers sign an agreement to follow written trail maintenance specifications.

b. Trail design standards

Committee asked staff to clarify the use of the terms “cross slope” and “outslope” in the Trails Manual. In response, Addendum #5 will be prepared for the Committee meeting of July 18..

c. Request from Michael Jones to consider additional signs in Upper Bidwell Park

There was a tie vote regarding locations of signs on the south side of Big Chico Creek as proposed by Dr. Jones. Further discussion was put over to the Committee meeting of July 18.

d. Discussion of using California Conservation Corps for trail work

Chair Wood asked to consider the use of intern from California Conservation Corp for work on the trails. Park Director Beardsley said we are now using CCC as volunteers and he would like to find an intern who would work within the price range offered.

e. Consider proposed language relating to use of recyclables and steel

The Trails Manual encourages use of native materials but does not mention recyclables or steel so the policy to include them should be made clear. Staff submitted Addendum #4 with recommended amendments to the Manual.

COMMISSIONER KIDD MOVED TO APPROVE ADDENDUM #4 AS PRESENTED.
COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0

3. Report from Trail/Safety Committee (Candela, Kidd and Chair Wood) Meeting of July 18, 2002

a. Consideration of amendment to Bidwell Park Trails Manual referencing “outslopes” and “cross slopes” (Addendum No. 5)

Staff presented a draft Addendum #5 adding “outslope” and “cross slope” to the glossary of terms and modifying figures 9 and 12.

COMMISSIONER KIDD MOVED TO APPROVE ADDENDUM #5 AS PRESENTED.
COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

b. Request from Michael Jones to consider additional signs in Upper Bidwell Park

Dr. Jones has proposed 22 new locations for signs in Upper Bidwell Park. Committee agreed to add three signs on the B Trail and Park Director Beardsley suggested an additional one at the head of Ten Mile House Road, replacement of one at the golf course, and one at the end of Centennial. The other proposed locations were in the study areas and staff recommends staying away from that area until after the EIR is completed and the final plan can be made.

From the public, Elizabeth Tice said there are no approved trails on the south side so there is not much to put on a post. John Copeland said he looked at an area in question where a woman drowned last year. It looks obvious to him that the trail does not go across the creek but goes parallel so he does not think the victim was misled for lack of a sign.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO APPROVE THE SIX SIGNS TO BE PLACED WHERE DIRECTED BY STAFF. COMMISSIONER WOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

c. Interpretive signs for the Yahi Trail

Michael Jones has finished installing 24 interpretive signs along Yahi Trail, with the help of the Native Plant Society. Commissioner Kidd said Commission should send him a letter of thanks for doing a good job and copy the local newspapers. Chair Ledgerwood will prepare the letter.

d. Resources to implement and maintain trails in Bidwell Park

Committee recommends that volunteer programs for trail maintenance and improvements in Upper Bidwell Park be expanded to include an “Adopt a Trail Program.”

Commissioner Candela said we should adopt guidelines and a policy for the program and let City Council know that is where we want to go.

Commissioner Kidd said other organizations, such as his four wheel drive club, have this program and can give out guidelines. Be careful not to make it burdensome so work does not get done. Commissioner Schreiber said she

would like a draft proposal of the program before she can make a decision.

COMMISSIONER KIDD MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONCEPT OF AN “ADOPT A TRAIL” PROGRAM AND HAVE STAFF BRING A STRATEGIC PLAN FOR DISCUSSION IN SEPTEMBER. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

1. Director’s Report

Horseshoe Lake deck construction is waiting for more input from Fish and Game. Skateboard lessons given by CARD are a success and have been extended. Recently there has been extensive vandalism at Humboldt Park so extra security is there now. Chico Cat Coalition submitted a report on their activities as of 07/02/02.

Urban Forester Boza presented the latest information on Sudden Oak Death. The public can minimize the spread by not taking wood or plants from an infected area and washing soil off vehicles, clothing and boots. The pathogen is killing red oak and tanoak family only. Cool and rainy or moist conditions encourage the disease and many areas may have such microclimates. Chemical treatments are being developed but it is too early to know what is effective.

2. Monthly Report

Received and filed.

3. Incident Reports

Received and filed.

4. Correspondence

A letter and petition from Patricia Besser regarding restrooms and garbage at Humboldt Skateboard Park.

6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Request from John Staple to consider installing a “Poem Rock” in Bidwell Park

Park Director Beardsley recommends this request be sent to the Master Management Plan Committee.

Sandra Renault, of Orient Street, wants to improve Annie’s Glenn by letting traffic move through so it won’t be so isolated. People are staying there, leaving trash, and it does not feel safe. Park Director Beardsley said the Annie Bidwell Trail will come through that area and bring a crossing over Mangrove to One Mile. But it has been talked about for several years and funding is difficult. It may be put in the five year capitol improvement plan.

Elizabeth Tice asked if the botanical review of Upper Park will be coming out August 1? Park Director Beardsley said he does not know.

John Copeland said that General John Bidwell was born in New York on August 5, 1819, came to California in 1841, and died in 1900. He invited every one to celebrate the anniversary of General Bidwell's birthday at the Bidwell Mansion on Saturday, August 3.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. to the next regular meeting of August 26, 2002.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
JULY 29, 2002
SIGN IN SHEET

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
1.	Elizabeth Tice	605 Vilas Road Chico
2.	John Copeland	1650 Bidwell Avenue
3.	Sandra Renault	220 Orient Street

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
AUGUST 26, 2002
MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Roll Call: Present at Roll Call: Chair Wendy Ledgerwood, Commissioners Don Kidd, Michael Jones, Glenn Dunning, Mary Schreiber, David Wood, and Michael Candela; staff Park Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Chris Boza, Assistant City Attorney Alicia M. Rock, and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes from the Regular Meeting of July 29, 2002

2. Application and Permit Request from the Chico State Cycling Club for a Cross Country Mountain Bike Race on Saturday, September 28, 2002 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. - Upper Bidwell Park

Commissioner Jones requested this item be removed from the consent Agenda.

COMMISSIONER DUNNING MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA. COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-1. COMMISSIONER JONES ABSTAINED.

3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS None

4. REGULAR AGENDA

1. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

Application and Permit Request from the Chico State Cycling Club for a Cross Country Mountain Bike Race on Saturday, September 28, 2002 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. - Upper Bidwell Park

Commissioner Jones could not tell from the map what the exact route would be. He supports full access to the park except where there may be significant environmental harm. He is concerned about 200 riders on a trail, especially at the steep areas of B Trail and at Bloody Pin. Those areas are worse than they were a couple of years ago and other trails could support the event. A committee could monitor the trail use before and after to check for any damage.

Commissioner Candela suggested this race be allowed and be monitored with photos of before and after. If necessary, other routes could be looked at for the future. Commissioner Kidd said riders could repair any damage. Park Director Beardsley said there was monitoring when the first race was held and he is not aware of any damage. Commissioners Jones and Kidd, from the Trail/Safety Committee, could have a noticed ad hoc meeting in September 28 and be at the race site to monitor.

From the public, Cory Ward, vice-president of the Cycle Club, said the club would like to know if the race does any damage and it is a good idea to find out. Susan Mason asked how many would ride, where they come from, and what is the permit fee to ride? She would hope they get their permit application in earlier next year in case there are any problems. Monitoring will designate places for maintenance and she hopes the Chico State Cycle Club will help.

COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER MOVED TO APPROVE THE APPLICATION FOR A CROSS COUNTY MOUNTAIN BIKE RACE IN UPPER BIDWELL PARK ON SEPTEMBER 28, 2002 WITH AN AD HOC MEETING ON SITE TO MONITOR THE TRAILS AND BRING THEIR RESULT TO THE TRAILS COMMITTEE. COMMISSIONER WOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

2. Report from Master Management Plan Committee (Schreiber, Kidd and Chair Dunning) Meeting of August 15, 2002

Request from John Staple to consider installing a "Poem Rock" in Bidwell Park

Mr. Staple said he is an artist and has submitted his plan for a mini grant of up to \$2,000 from the Art Committee budget to put poems on rocks. He wants poetry and art to make contact in nature with the general public. To do the work, he would need to secure a columnar rock in cement at the proper location and stamp words of a short poem on clay tiles to be mounted on the rock. He would use nothing controversial and prefers the work from a local poet or a California poet laureate. A committee could have final say on the selection.

Commissioner Dunning would like a few words near a trail where many would see it. Commissioner Kidd would like the location near the CARD Center. Chair Ledgerwood expressed some concern about digging a hole in the park to fill with cement.

COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONCEPT OF A POEM ROCK

IN LOWER BIDWELL PARK. COMMISSIONER JONES SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

3. Presentation of the “Survey of Special Status Botanical Species for the City of Chico’s Bidwell Park Trails Project”

Kristiaan Stuart, of Stuart Consulting, has completed a botanical survey of the focus area in Upper Bidwell Park. The report will be part of the environmental review and analysis of the Upper Park Trail Plan and proposed Annie Bidwell Trail. The Master Management Plan, General Plan, and other resources such as geology will be considered as well. The written botanical report and photos are available at the Park office, on the City website and as a compact disc.

Mr. Stuart appeared to present an overview of his survey. He found a lot of rare plants in Upper Park that will be a constraint in putting in new trails. No construction is planned near some, some are in wet land areas that need to be avoided anyway, some are not endangered but on a watch list, one is a host plant for an endangered beetle. Trails can change a plant’s microclimate and make an impact. Replanting is no longer considered mitigating.

Commissioner Jones said rare native plants in Bidwell Park are a smaller percentage than statewide. One is locally abundant but rare statewide. Commissioner Wood determined that growth of a rare plant near an existing trail is potentially okay.

From the public, Josephine Guardino, of California Native Plant Society (CNPS), read some issues the Department of Fish and Game want covered in an EIR and said the City should be aware of their requirements early. CNPS is pushing for improvement of existing trails before building new ones. They work to promote native plants in natural habitat, would like to know how the City will care for sensitive resources now and in the future, and want a land management plan before proceeding. Samantha Hillaire, who received a Masters in Botany at CSUC, asked how much research had been done on environmental issues. The City should not just look at published material on local plants but also at student projects and thesis at CSUC.

This is an information item.

4. Consideration of Bidwell Park/Higgins Hole Image on City of Chico Website

Commissioner Jones said the beauty water fall shown on the City’s Website is about five miles east of the city boundary and appears to be on private property. He would like to be shown something in the Park. Commissioner Candela said it is somewhat inappropriate and Chair Ledgerwood said to point it out to City staff. Commissioners Dunning and Schreiber said it is not Commission business.

COMMISSIONER JONES MOVED TO ASK CITY INFORMATION SYSTEMS DEPARTMENT IF SOME OTHER PLACE COULD BE POSTED ON THE WEBSITE. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 4-2-1.

AYES: CHAIR LEDGERWOOD, COMMISSIONERS KIDD, JONES AND CANDELA. NOES: COMMISSIONER DUNNING AND SCHREIBER. ABSTAIN: COMMISSIONER WOOD.

5. Consideration of Improvements at Former Cabin site on Ten-Mile Road

Commissioner Jones has removed an old cabin down from Green Gate entrance and a cement slab is left that would make a good site for a bench or picnic table. He asked if there is any interest in such a project. Chair Ledgewood asked about trash pick up. Park Director Beardsley said City would not pick up in that remote area but hikers or bikers there would be good about taking out what they bring in. A bench or table would not be expensive and would be used a lot. The slab could also be removed.

COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER MOVED TO INSTALL A PICNIC TABLE AT THE OLD CABIN SITE. COMMISSIONER KIDD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

Break from 8:50 - 9:00 p.m.,

6. Authorization to Remove Shade Structures and Concrete Stands - Former Rifle/Skeet Range - Upper Bidwell Park

Park Director Beardsley said the Sunrise Rotary Club has offered to assist in removing the structures and there is no reason to keep them around. Currently there is a study underway to determine what measures need to be taken to remove lead and remnants of clay pigeons on the site, but the ground would not be disturbed in this removal.

COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER MOVED TO REMOVE THE SHADE STRUCTURES AND STANDS AT THE FORMER RIFLE RANGE. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

7. Discussion of Request for Proposals for an Environmental Impact Report and Design Review for the Proposed Upper Bidwell Park Trail Plan, Annie Bidwell Trail, and Preparation of Associated Amendments to the Bidwell Park Master Management Plan.

Responses to the Request for Proposals are being reviewed. Two proposals were

received. Next the 30-day Notice of Preparation will be circulated notifying the public and agencies of the project and preparation of the EIR. Commission is being asked to specify any items of interest now before circulating the Notice.

Commissioner Jones said the Request has no mention of the Annie Bidwell Trail. Also the goals and objectives in Attachment F have not been discussed by Commission or public. He objects to several things in the document and would like to take it to the Trail/Safety Committee.

Park Director Beardsley said the goals and objectives were presented to the Trail/Safety Committee and were also discussed at the public workshop on July 1, 2002. They are not new policy statements but are meant to focus on key items for attention of the prospective consultant. They were compiled from the existing Master Management Plan, the Bidwell Park Trails Manual, and input from the Mountain Bike Association

Commissioner Wood disagrees with many items in the document and would like more discussion. He does not like the term 'boot leg trail' in Attachment F as, without a plan, there can be no such designation. He would encourage the park to be more user friendly than former Commissions did.

Chair Ledgerwood suggested Commissioners submit their comments to staff to be considered in the Trail/Safety committee discussion. All Commissioners can attend the Committee meeting but cannot comment at that time.

COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER MOVED TO REFER THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TO THE TRAIL/SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2002. COMMISSIONER WOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

8. Consideration of Development of Formal Procedures and Policies for Placing Items on Agenda

Commissioner Jones raised the question of how items are placed on agendas and discovered there is no formal process. The Council Internal Affairs Committee referred the question to each Commission for review and consideration. Staff recommends establishing written guide lines. Chair Ledgerwood requested additional wording be included on the agenda under Business From the Floor to clarify a time for the public to request placing an item on agendas.

COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER MOVED TO SEND THIS ITEM TO MASTER MANAGEMENT PLAN COMMITTEE FOR CLARIFICATION. COMMISSIONER KIDD

SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

9. Consideration of Committee Assignments

With the change in Commission membership, Chair Ledgerwood would like to discuss Committee assignments. Commissioner Jones said he would take any vacated positions. Commissioner Candela said he thinks Commissioner Jones should be on the Trail/Safety Committee because of his extensive experience in that area. Commissioner Candela will move to the Bike Advisory Committee instead. Commissioner Jones will serve on the Tree/Finance Committee and the Trail/Safety Committee. Commissioner Dunning will become Chair of the Tree/Finance Committee.

10. Items Added After Posting of the Agenda

Review and Consideration of the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission's July 29, 2002 Decision to Allow Installation of Six Trail Signs in Upper Bidwell Park

Commissioner Jones said not all of the correct information was brought up for discussion of signs at the July 29 meeting in that the Commission was under the impression they could not authorize signs in the focus areas of the proposed EIR. City Manager Tom Lando said the Commission can authorize the signs in that area if they want them. If signs are put up now and designated as not meant to be final, he would be glad to move them if any changes occur. It could be seven years before the study is complete and 10 years for implementation.

Commissioner Dunning thought the signs were not voted into the focus area because they did not want to place them there, not because they could not. There were never signs there before and were not missed. Commissioner Kidd said he voted for only six signs so they would not have to be changed but had not considered the public would not know where the trails were so now thinks the signs are a good idea.

Commissioner Schreiber said there is no reason to revisit this issue. She read the statement where staff recommended only six signs now so that other signs would not be influential before the study was completed and could not appear to predetermine trail alignment pending public review.

Chair Ledgerwood said signs would be helpful for the public to identify areas for comments during the study.

Commissioner Wood said there is no point in putting in just posts. Three trails now

have multiple names but there is an agenda item at the next Committee meeting to decide a single name for each.

From the public, Josephine Guardino said to wait because there is confusion about some trail names and people want to know milage but calculations would have to be done later.

COMMISSIONER DUNNING MOVED TO SEND THIS ITEM TO THE TRAIL/SAFETY COMMITTEE FOR TRAIL NAMES AND A RECOMMENDATION ON SIGNS.
COMMISSIONER SCHRIEBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-1.

5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

1. Director's Report

Ground breaking for the fishing deck was held this morning; construction at Wildwood was delayed and steel will be going up at the end of this week; there will be another meeting on September 23 to discuss the proposed rose garden, it's size and location; unsound water oak trees will be removed at Children's Playground by staff as a training program; tree crew staff will assist in certification testing for Arborists at the CARD Center on September 23; Skateboard Park has been hit by vandalism at a cost of \$4,000. Not all of the City's request to Regional Water Quality Control Board to relax testing requirements for pool cleaning at Sycamore Pool was approved, but tests have shown no waste is being discharged into the creek below the pool so that eliminates the need to test up and down stream during cleaning at a saving of about \$17,000 per year.

2. Incident Reports Received and filed.

3. Monthly Reports Received and filed

4. Correspondence

Letter from Michele Shover and G. D. Lillibridge regarding Mulberry Park and Park Director's response.

6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Josephine Guardino said there are 47 signs on 3.5 miles of Yahi Trail so consider that when adding more signs. Also some of the information on interpretive signs is factually incorrect and none tell about how the natives used the plants. Park Director Beardsley said there is a photo inventory of Park signs and he will bring it to the next Trail/Safety Committee meeting.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 10:25 to the next regular meeting of September 30, 2002

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION

SIGN IN SHEET

AUGUST 26, 2002

Name	Address	
1. Corey Ward	103A Chestnut Street	
2. Susan Mason	PO Box 3036	
3. John Staple	2217 Laurel Street	GChico 95928
4. Kristiaan Steward	595 Kings Canyon Way	Chico 95973
5. Josephine Guardino	497 East 9 th Street	Chico 95928
6. Samantha Hillaire	2925 Burnap Ave #112	Chico 95973

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 30, 2002

1. CALL TO ORDER

Present at Roll Call: Chair Wendy Ledgerwood, Commissioners Don Kidd, Glenn Dunning, Mary Schreiber, David Wood and Michael Candela; staff Park Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Chris Boza, Assistant City Attorney Alicia M. Rock, and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes from Regular Meeting of August 26, 2002

2. Application & Permit Request from Adventure Outings - Associated Students of CSUC Chico for a Rim to Rim Relay - Mountain Bike & Trail Running Relay Race on Saturday, October 27, 2002 from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. - Upper Park

This item was removed from the Consent Agenda by John Merz.

3. Application & Permit Request from CSU Chico PHED 230 for a Fun Run, 5k and 10k - Saturday, November 9, 2002 from 6:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. - Upper Bidwell Park

This item was removed from the Consent Agenda by John Merz.

4. Application & Permit Request from Chico Area Park and Recreation District for the 2002 National Yo-Yo Contest, Saturday, October 5, 2002 - Plaza Park

COMMISSIONER KIDD MOVED TO ACCEPT ITEMS 1 AND 4 FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS None

4. REGULAR AGENDA

1. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

A. Application & Permit Request from Adventure Outings - Associated Students of CSUC Chico for a Rim to Rim Relay - Mountain Bike &

Trail Running Relay Race on Saturday, October 27, 2002 from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. - Upper Park

From the public, John Merz said he pulled this item from Consent Agenda because of the potential problems with Sudden Oak Death Syndrome (SODS). The request on the permit to clean equipment from outside the area should be a requirement. Urban Forest Boza said a large tray filled with bleach and water could be set up by event sponsors for participants use to wash shoes and tires. And there needs to be proper water/bleach disposal. Martin Roland, assistant coordinator of the event, said he had not heard of SODS but he will provide the wash, put the information on the event flyer, and make recommendations mandatory. Teresa McDonald asked if wash should be done before and after. Urban Forester Boza said there is no evidence of SODS in the park now.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO ACCEPT THE APPLICATION FOR BIKE RELAY RACE PROVIDED APPLICANT PROVIDE A TROUGH AND BLEACH SOLUTION FOR CLEANING BIKES AND SHOES. COMMISSIONER KIDD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

B. Application & Permit Request from CSU Chico PHED 230 for a Fun Run, 5k and 10k - Saturday, November 9, 2002 from 6:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. - Upper Bidwell Park

From the public, John Merz said he pulled this item from Consent Agenda because of the potential effects for Sudden Oak Death Syndrome (SODS). The request on the permit to clean equipment from outside the area should be a requirement. Gabe Buenrostro, from CSUC, said he is putting on the foot race and will do whatever is required to prepare for it.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO ACCEPT THE APPLICATION FOR A FUN RUN PROVIDED APPLICANT PROVIDE A TROTH AND BLEACH SOLUTION FOR CLEANING SHOES. COMMISSIONER KIDD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

2. Review and Comment on Public Notice of Intent to Adopt a Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration - Upper Bidwell Park Disc Golf Facility (ER 01-02)

Park Director Beardsley said the site for the facility is located just off SR 32 seven miles due east of Bruce Road on 39 acres bought from BLM. Improvements would include two courses, a gravel parking lot, kiosk, porta potties, and trash receptacles. The exit from Highway 32 to the parking lot has been approved by Cal Trans and signs need to be put on the road to mark it. This area would also be used for a trail head.

Comments on the initial study are due prior to October 19, 2002.

From the public, Greg Payne said he has been crusader for disc golf for five years. He has much documentation on the history and will answer any question and give any help to build the course. Concerns have already been thought out and dealt with. Concrete tees would have least maintenance and environmental effect.

Lance Brogdon said he began teaching this sport to eighth graders at Bidwell Jr. High four years ago.

John Merz has two issues: the policy is that we continue to armor the park by putting in facilities and that the EIR won't be large enough in scope because there are other alternatives not considered. The history of this project has been sporadic and inconsistent and that it is inappropriate to circumvent the CEQA process. Commission needs to find out the public concerns, then check with the legal policy before proceeding. He has no problem with the activity, but the location and other issues have not been addressed relative to impacts on the park.

Michael Jones said this development is in a new portion of the park so is not adding anything to Bidwell Park but making new land useful to the public. The environmental community is trying to restrict public land from public use. Reviews could go on for ever. The park is not just for wildlife and species, but for people.

Josephine Guardino said the EIR indicated there are no rare plants in the area but some have been discovered and she would like that acknowledged. Also the three vernal pools on site should be avoided somehow. There is no list of plants on site and noxious weeds need to be known so the weed population does not get worse. She has safety concerns about people falling over the cliffs and traffic turning off the highway.

Chris Bowen has played disc golf since 1975 all over the world; there are 55 courses in California. It is a good game for family and for groups of any number or abilities. Plants in this area have been destroyed because there was no cement for tees. Poles can be provided to retrieve frisbees from near the vernal pools. He introduced disc golf to Oroville and they are now adding a new course.

Susan Mason asked about the annual maintenance cost to the City. Park Director Beardsley has no hard figures and that participants will be asked to help keep the area clear of trash and debris.

John Serona said he is new to the area but the location seems pretty good and the course will be put up somewhere else if shut down there.

Les Harrison was probably the first to present the idea of disc golf to a commission in 1981. The policy then was for no new development in the park, but that has changed

since then. They need an official course to play a tournament.

Scott Henderson is an environmentalist and a player and promised they will do what it takes to keep the site as beautiful as they can.

Kim Seidler, Planning Director, said an alternative analysis has not been done for the Mitigated Negative Declaration per state law.

Commissioner Dunning said he has made a recommendation for this site in a former meeting. Commissioner Wood said it is a great place and a great concept.

No action required.

3. Report on City Plaza Master Plan

Park Director Beardsley introduced Mary Van Buskirk and John Anderson of Heritage Partners, consultant, to present their findings and concepts regarding the Plaza Park Master Plan for Commission and public discussion. Comments will be referred to the Master Management Plan Committee for further discussion and come back within two months for formal approval and adoption by Council. Proposition 12 funding of \$150,000 has tentatively been earmarked for the project and another \$50,000 was approved by Council to replace sidewalks in the Plaza.

Consultants showed three plans which evolved from the public meetings and an alternative four as a composite of the first three. The goals are to address functionality, security, daily use, and appearance. John Bidwell preserved the site 120 years ago. Now the elms are diseased and use has increased extensively so it needs to be renovated. Cost will be determined after a plan is selected. The project will take 10 to 12 years to complete and funding will be found during that time.

Chair Ledgerwood said she attended the planning meetings and likes alternative plan four. She would like to have more information about fountains and thinks reclaiming the area for daily use is most important. Commissioner Kidd said two stages and raised planting beds would take away a lot of seating. He would like a gazebo designed for good acoustics.

From the public, Teresa McDonald would like to use one parking space used for a bike rack and add a drinking fountain. And keep enough sidewalk to support the pastel sidewalk drawings event.

BREAK FROM 8:35 TO 8:45

4. Review and Discussion of Park Department Strategic Plan

The Park Department prepared a document in 2002, summarizing department responsibilities, goals for the future, and projected needs for personnel and equipment. Staff presented it as a review and to accept suggested modifications. Park Director Beardsley showed slides covering the areas of responsibility in stewardship for Bidwell Park, greenways, urban forest and public planting areas; within the department organization; and with contract services. Because of increases in grant opportunities, trail access, street trees and public landscape areas, population growth of the area, and in administrative tasks, he anticipates a significant need for additional personnel and equipment in the next five years.

5. Report from Master Management Plan Committee (Schreiber, Kidd and Chair Dunning) Meeting of September 11, 2002

A. Review and consideration of request from the Chico Area Recreation and Park District to host a community campout at Hooker Oak Park on July 19, 2003

Chair Dunning said this item was brought to the full Commission because camping is prohibited in Bidwell Park. Hooker Oak Park is part of Bidwell Park and leased to CARD. Park Director Beardsley said, if the permit is approved, a minute order would have to go to Council.

COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER MOVED TO APPROVE THE PERMIT FOR A CARD CAMP OUT. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

B. Request from Kathie Russo to consider changes to the Bidwell Park Master Management Plan

Chair Dunning said no action is recommended now because the location and size of the rose garden has not been determined.

C. Consideration of formal procedures and policies for placing items on Commission agendas

Committee enclosed proposed guidelines in the packet for consideration.

COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER MOVED TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA GUIDELINES AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER KIDD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

6. Trail/Safety Committee (Jones, Kidd and Chair Wood) Meeting of September 11, 2002

A. Review and discussion of trail names in Upper Bidwell Park - New Addition

Committee recommends adopting the names of Temporary Annie Bidwell Trail, Pine Trail, Guardians Trail and Bloody Pin.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO ACCEPT THE NEW TRAIL NAMES.
COMMISSIONER KIDD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

B. Trail design standards

No action was taken on this item.

C. Consideration of an Adopt-A-Trail program

Committee set up guidelines for the Adopt-A-Trail program and recommends it be added to the Trails Manual as a separate chapter. Chair Dunning said the new guideline encourages two litter cleanups each year so the words “one project a month” should be stricken from the handbook.

COMMISSIONER KIDD MOVED TO ADOPT THE PROGRAM WITH DESIGNATED CHANGE TO TRAILS MANUAL. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

D. Review and consider trail work priorities for fall 2002

No action was taken on this item.

E. Review and consideration of Attachment F of the request for proposals for an environmental impact report and design review for the proposed Upper Bidwell Park trail plan; Annie Bidwell Trail; and preparation of associated amendments to the Bidwell Park Master Management Plan.

No action was taken on this item.

F. Review and discussion of responses to the request for proposals for an environmental impact report and design review for the proposed Upper Bidwell Park trail plan; Annie Bidwell Trail; and preparation of associated amendments to the Bidwell Park Master Management Plan.

Committee recommends a contract not be awarded to either consultant who submitted responses because each has a financial relationship with CSUC. ACA Rock said we have no right to establish arbitrary standards for those who are contracting with the City.

From the public, Josephine Guardino said the project has been dropped so there is no need for a recommendation. Park Director Beardsley said it would

be relevant in the future. Michael Jones said the park wide trail plan was not funded by Council, but they asked for better definition of

Annie Bidwell and Yahi Trails before funding. He would not object to anyone from CSUC as a consultant.

Commission agreed to take no action.

G. Review and consider the placement of 27 signs in Upper Bidwell Park - south of Big Chico Creek

Committee recommended to allow the 27 signs proposed by Michael Jones but now have changed the recommendation since there is not funding for the EIR and no focus area. Park Director Beardsley said some areas are still under consideration. There is now \$97,000 available for the study so suggestion is to revise the project focus to 1) Annie Bidwell Trail and 2) Yahi Trail. Also the two bridge locations and one more trail to connect with the middle trail might be considered if more money becomes available. Staff will present the committee a revised plan.

Commissioner Wood suggested the bridge be a third priority after the first two trails. Commissioner Dunning had no objections to the signs since there is now no project to complete.

From the public, Michael Jones said he will put up the posts and come back to Committee with wording for the signs next. He showed public and Commission the posts he will use. He said 27 signs within a five mile area is not a lot. Josephine Guardino asked the commission to have a total number of signs in mind or there will get to be too many. Some people think a brochure may be more useful

COMMISSIONER WOOD MOVED TO PUT IN 27 POSTS AND HAVE THE WORDING FOR SIGNS COME TO COMMITTEE. COMMISSIONER KIDD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

H. Discussion of application and permit request from the Chico State Cycling Club for a cross country mountain bike race on Saturday, September 28, 2002 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. - Upper Bidwell Park.

Staff monitored the bike race held on September 27 and the evaluation report will be completed soon. The bike club has started some renovation. From the public, Susan Mason said she walked a portion of B Trail and their

work did prevent some potential damage.

No action required.

I. Review and discussion of property which is for sale along State Route 32, Upper Bidwell Park

Committee recommends not to pursue purchase of this land because it is too expensive. From the public, Michael Jones said he identified the property and agrees it is way too expensive, though it is the only private land on the park side of Highway 32.

COMMISSIONER DUNNING MOVED TO SUPPORT TAKING NO ACTION ON THIS LAND PURCHASE. COMMISSIONER KIDD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

J. Review and consideration of trail safety language for trail brochures

No action was taken on this item.

7. Report from Trail/Safety Committee (Candela, Kidd and Chair Wood) Meeting of September 19, 2002.

A. Trail design standards

This item was not addressed.

B. Review and consider trail work priorities for fall 2002

This item was not addressed

C. Review and consideration of Attachment F of the Request for Proposals for an Environmental Impact Report and design review for the proposed Upper Bidwell Park Trail Plan; Annie Bidwell Trail; and preparation of associated amendments to the Bidwell Park Master Management Plan

Committee voted 3-0 to adopt a modified Attachment F. Park Director Beardsley said the attachment was made for the project not funded, but a vote now would clarify the points included and it could be used in the future. ACA Rock pointed out the entire process will be done again if the revised project goes out to bid.

Commissioner Candela suggested changing “goals” to “issues” and “objectives” to “consideration” and delete the two designated sentences.

From the public, Josephine Guardino said the people had a period to make comments early so were surprised when Jones later proposed more changes. It might be better not to have an attachment at all but to refer consultants to the polices already written in the Master Management Plan

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO ADOPT ATTACHMENT F AS AMENDED.
COMMISSIONER KIDD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-1. AYES:
COMMISSIONER KIDD, DUNNING, SCHREIBER, CANDELA AND WOOD. NOES: CHAIR
LEDGERWOOD..

- D. Review and consideration of trail safety language for trail brochures**
This item was not addressed

8. Consideration of Committee Assignments

Due to changes in the membership of the commission, committee positions were changed. Commissioner Candela is back on the Trial/Safety Committee.

5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

1. Director's Report

Park Director Beardsley reports shade structures are going up at Wildwood Park. At their September 17 meeting, the Council Finance Committee took action regarding trail funding. They also considered a staff report and background information on Baroni Park project. It was set aside to allow discussion with neighbors. Urban Forester Boza said Ten Mile Road restoration is completed to the bottom and is now passable year around. The site on Humboldt Road was cleaned up and a chain fence will be installed to prevent illegal dumping.

- 2. Incident Reports** Received and filed.

- 3. Incident Reports** Received and filed

4. Correspondence

A letter from Marjorie McNairn, President of Mt. Lassen Chapter of California Native Plant Society, expressing the importance of protecting all native plant species (not just rare plants) in the park and the response written by Park Director Beardsley.

6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Commissioner Schreiber asked to include an agenda item for next month's meeting. She would

like to discuss beginning the commission meetings at 6:30 p.m. Commissioner Dunning asked about the status of our freeway art, as he had recently seen some down under I80. Park Director Beardsley said Mary Gardner is working on it.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 to the next regular meeting of October 28, 2002.

**BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
SIGN IN SHEET
SEPTEMBER 30, 2002**

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
1.	Martin Roland	201 Cohasset Lane #2
2.	Theresa McDonald	5044 Russell Drive Paradise 95969
3.	Gabe Buenrosto	2 Leland Court 95926
4.	Gregg Payne	1343 Bidwell Ave
5.	Lance Brogdon	1255 Neal Dow Avenue
6.	John Merz	P O Box 4759 95927
7.	Michael R. Jones	2411 Notre Dame Blvd
8.	Josephine Guardino	467 East 9 th Street
9.	Chris Bowen	1705 Oak Vista Avenue
10.	Susan Mason	P O Box 3036 95927
11.	Alex Sanno	807 El Dorado 95926
12.	Cey Harrison	687 East 8 th
13.	Scott Gonderson	1953 Wild Oak Lane 95928

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
OCTOBER 28, 2002
MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Present at Roll Call: Chair Wendy Ledgerwood, Student Commissioner Kendra Anderson, Commissioners Glenn Dunning, Mary Schreiber, David Wood and Michael Candela; staff Park Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Chris Boza, Assistant City Attorney Alicia M. Rock, and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson. Absent: Commissioner Don Kidd.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Minutes from Regular Meeting of September 30, 2002**
- 2. Approval of Application and Permit for Public Use from Parent Education Network for "Pastels on the Plaza 2002" - September 13, 14, and 15, 2003 - City Plaza**
- 3. Approval of Application and Permit for Park Use from the Downtown Chico Business Association for 2003 Friday Night Concerts May 9 to September 26, 2002 - City Plaza**
- 4. Approval of Application and Permit for Park Use from the Downtown Chico Business Association for 2003 Thursday Night Market April 3 to September 25, 2003 - City Plaza**
This item was removed from Consent Agenda by Commissioner Dunning.
- 5. Approval of Application and Permit for Public Use from Downtown Chico Business Association (DCBA) for "Downtown Trick or Treat Street" Event 10/31/03 - City Plaza**
This item was removed from Consent Agenda by Commissioner Dunning.
- 6. Approve Permit and Application for Public Use from Cycle Productions for the Artisans Faire May 2, 3, and 4, 2002 - City Plaza**

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO APPROVE ITEMS 1, 2, 3, AND 6 OF CONSENT AGENDA. COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0. STUDENT COMMISSIONER ANDERSON VOTED AYE.

3. **NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS** None

4. **REGULAR AGENDA**

1. **Items Removed from the Consent Agenda**

A. **Approval of Application and Permit for Park Use from the Downtown Chico Business Association for 2003 Thursday Night Market April 3 to September 25, 2003 - City Plaza**

Commissioner Dunning asked why there was no fee charged for this permit. Park Director Beardsley said there is a fee and it should have been included on the permit.

COMMISSIONER DUNNING MOVED TO APPROVE THE PERMIT FOR THURSDAY NIGHT MARKET. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0. STUDENT COMMISSIONER ANDERSON VOTED AYE

B. **Approval of Application and Permit for Public Use from Downtown Chico Business Association (DCBA) for "Downtown Trick or Treat Street" Event 10/31/03 - City Plaza**

Commissioner Dunning asked why this application for permit was submitted so close to the event. Park Director Beardsley pointed out it is actually early for next year.

COMMISSIONER DUNNING MOVED TO APPROVE THE PERMIT FOR DCBA. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0. STUDENT COMMISSIONER ANDERSON VOTED AYE

2. **Review and Consideration of Request from the Bidwell Park Golf Club, Inc. to Install Gravel Paths for Golf Carts - Bidwell Park Municipal Golf Course**

Bidwell Park Golf Club is requesting permission to install new gravel paths where play is restricted or prohibited during the wet season. They would also help reduce erosion where unofficial paths have been established. No vegetation will be removed from the course and no further EIR is needed.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO APPROVE THE REQUEST. COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0. STUDENT COMMISSIONER ANDERSON VOTED AYE.

3. **Report from Master Management Plan Committee (Schreiber, Kidd and**

Dunning, Chair) meeting of October 9, 2002

A. Review and consideration of City Plaza Master Plan

Park Director Beardsley said this item is presented for Commission to consider approval of the concept, discuss some features, and then move on with determining costs and set priority for steps to be taken.

Consultants Tom DiGiovanni and Mary Van Buskirk presented their plan based on prior public and Commission discussion. The goals are 1) improve functionality, 2) increase a sense of safety, 3) invigorate daily use, and 4) repair deterioration. They made their recommendations and brought up several issues that still need to be discussed.

From the public, Mary Andrews said workshop discussion decided there be no pond as part of the fountain, the performance platform be on Fourth Street side, and the play element be a bocci ball court. She suggested the paving be blocks instead of solid for better water runoff.

Architect Nicholas Ambrosia likes a fountain in Portland which has water jets coming out randomly as programmed is and surrounded by cement benches.

Martha Dennison did not know about this project until recently but she has done some design work regarding the center fountain, a stage and seating. She gave Commissioners some of her work that might answer some difficulties.

Wayne Cook is a local resident who has long had a great interest in the Plaza. He is impressed with the consultant's work and the timeliness of making it a central feature for downtown growth.

Steve Rooney, who presents the Artisan's Faire in May, said the raised features may not work out well for some events held in the Plaza. He has concern about hazards. The fairgrounds recently remodeled and leveled all curbs because of liability.

Break from 9:05 to 9:15.

Commission discussed several issues to clarify their recommendations:
~ fountain - very desirable, type to be determined but probably interactive
~ raised planters on four sides - provides seating and are changeable in

design

~ raised lawn panels - good to delineate the area and direct traffic

~ performance platforms - one large platform on Fourth Street side but a solar study would identify shadow casting before making a final decision

~ street trees/sidewalk/ parking configuration - prefer those shown in composite plan 4. The City might have to make a traffic study before closing a lane and introducing diagonal parking.

~ restroom - portable restroom on a trailer that may be used in other areas

~ play element - would like to learn about more options than bocci ball or checkers

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO APPROVED THE PLAN AS DISCUSSED.
COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0.
STUDENT COMMISSIONER ANDERSON VOTED AYE.

A. Review and consideration of request from Chico Area Recreation and Park District to lease a portion of Bidwell Park adjacent the Community Center on Vallombrosa Avenue

CARD is requesting to formalize the use of property between the Community Center and Big Chico Creek so they can make improvements to the Center. Staff recommends expanding the lease for this area under the same terms as for Hooker Oak Recreation Area.

For CARD, Steve Esconti said they would like to lease 600 square feet along the back of the building, now a concrete patio, to be made into office space.

COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER MOVED TO APPROVE THE LEASE WITH CARD.
COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0. STUDENT COMMISSIONER ANDERSON VOTED AYE.

4. Review from Trail/Safety Committee (Candela, Kidd and Wood, Chair) Meeting of October 9, 2002

A. Trail design standards

Committee is working on graphic examples of desirable exceptions to existing trail standards. They looked at trail widths and would like to put an illustration in the Manual to show * * * * No action required.

B. Review and consider trail work priorities for fall 2002

September and October trail work is being done by a staff crew of three, a CCC crew of 12 and volunteers. Focus is on drainage problems on the North Rim Trail and on improving “B” Trail , then on Middle Trail as time permits. No action required.

C. Review and consideration of trail safety language for trail brochures

Committee is working on a code of responsibility for trail use and on language regarding trail safety and liability. Chair Wood brought forward language used by International Mountain Bike Association and National Ski Association. Committee will make its recommendation at a later meeting.

From the public, Michael Jones said he is almost done with trail work and there is no list of work for volunteers to do. He could make a list of suggestions for the next Trail/Safety meeting. Also there are only 30 signs left to complete the entire park. Staff and work with him on putting in posts and Committee would work on the wording. No action required.

5. Review and Consideration of Resources Needed to Meet the Objective of the Park Department Five Year Strategic Plan

Commission requested this opportunity to take a position regarding additional staffing and equipment needs outlined in the Department’s Strategic Plan. Requests were for an additional six full time maintenance/tree workers, one 3/4 time waterer, one 3/4 time landscape inspector, and one full time position to oversee all responsibility for trails. Tree crew ability to respond to routine maintenance and special requests diminishes as more trees are planted. There are 150 maintenance districts to cover and a small part of personnel cost comes from there.

Chair Ledgerwood asked that staff determine priority if Council does not approve all positions.

COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER MOVED TO SUPPORT DIRECTOR’S REQUEST FOR STAFFING AND COMMEND THEM FOR GETTING THE WORK DONE. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0. STUDENT COMMISSIONER ANDERSON VOTED AYE.

6. Consideration of Bidwell Park and Playground Commission Meeting Time

Commissioner Schreiber asked that meetings start at 6:30 instead of 7:30.
Commissioner Wood said he prefers 7:00 but would change with the seasons. ACA
Rock said meetings can be set at 6:00 p.m. or later and the time must be consistent.

From the public, Michael Jones advocates earlier meetings and he would like 6:00.

COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER MOVED TO SET BPPC MEETINGS AT 6:30 P.M. THERE
WAS NO SECOND.

7. Review and Consider an Alternate Meeting Date for the December 2002 Meeting

Park Director Beardsley said the regular meeting date in December would be on
December 30. Commission can cancel the meeting or change the date. Staff
recommends December 16.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO SET THE DECEMBER MEETING ON 12-16-02.
COMMISSIONER DUNNING SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0. STUDENT
COMMISSIONER ANDERSON VOTED AYE

5. REPORTS

1. Director's Report

The fishing deck is completed, a pathway is going in, and dedication will be in
November. The lake is being filled six hours a day from a well at the golf course.
Fourteen tons of Arundo were removed this fall and more work will be done in the
spring. Seat walls are being formed at Wildwood Park. Negotiations are going on with
CARD for maintenance of Hancock Park on Marigold. Also discussion continues with
neighbors of Baroni Park. The oaks at Children's Park have been removed and
information validated the removal. There will be a fourth evaluation regarding removal
of the remaining elms in Plaza Park..

2. Monthly Reports Received and filed.

3. Incident Reports Received and filed.

4. Correspondence None

6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR None.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 to the next regular meeting of November 25, 2002.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION

OCTOBER 28, 2002

SIGN IN SHEET

	Name	Address
1.	Steve Visinti	CARD
2.	Mary Andrews	33 Amber Way
3.	Nick Ambrosia	342-5669
4.	Martha Dennison	343-5733
5.	Wayne Cook	345-9652
6.	Michael Jones	345-2250

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
MINUTES
NOVEMBER 25, 2002

1. CALL TO ORDER

Present at Roll Call: Chair Wendy Coggins, Commissioners Glenn Dunning, Mary Schreiber, David Wood, Michael Candela, and Don Kidd; staff Park Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Chris Boza, and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes from Regular Meeting of October 28, 2002

COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 28, 2002. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS None

4. REGULAR AGENDA

1. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda None

2. Presentation and Discussion of the Humboldt Neighborhood Park (Skateboard)

Park Director Beardsley said this is the fourth year the Park has been open and it has been used by many who take good care of it. However, the Park and adjacent property has been subjected to increased vandalism since August and tonight is part of a continuing process to find solutions to the problem. In response to a letter from Jack Skibo, of Boradori Automotive, the Internal Affairs Committee met on November 12, 2002 for discussion of the subject. The City would like to be a good neighbor and keep boarders out of other areas. Suggestions include making physical changes such as modifying fences, providing increased supervision, and surveillance.

From the public, Jack Skibo said they are still making repairs to his shop so he has not yet submitted bills to the City. He has no idea of why the demographics changed to such consistent vandalism and problems, and stated kids that age are reluctant to tell about someone else doing wrong. They like to throw wheels from broken skateboards to break windows and damage clients' cars. They tore out a replacement fence before the concrete set.

Student Commissioner Kendra Anderson arrived at 8:20.

Carlton Lowen has property on Humboldt Avenue and reminds the public there are successful businesses close to the park that should not have to leave the area. Most damage has been in the last six months after business hours. It was suggested that possibly the City could lay big chains across the ramps so the skatepark cannot be used at night.

Commissioner Dunning suggested using Park Watch or VIP volunteers on the premises and ask other cities what they have done in similar experiences. Commissioner Schreiber would like to pursue using surveillance cameras and make sure the public hears about anyone caught and punished. Commissioner Kidd suggested the camera be portable so as to be used in several locations. Chair Coggins asked about the possibility of having users pay approximately \$5.00 per year for an ID card to enter the park. Or there could be an anonymous tip line with a response from a Youth Police Officer.

Park Director Beardsley will notify Council of Commission's support for use of cameras, increased surveillance, and formation of a task force to find other solutions.

CARD provided skateboard programs at the park last summer and would like to expand those programs in 2003. Nik Reikalas, Recreation Supervisor for youth programs, said they had 55 participants in a successful program. The instructor and pupils were a positive influence on others using the park and instruction promotes safety. They would offer both morning and afternoon sessions while the park stays open to others. CARD also would like to give inline skate instruction at One-Mile.

COMMISSIONER KIDD MOVED TO SUPPORT CARD'S PROGRAMS. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0. STUDENT COMMISSIONER ANDERSON VOTED AYE.

3. Review and Consideration of Vegetation Management Plan

Park Director Beardsley presented the annual Vegetation Management Plan for review. It recommends continued removal of Arundo Donax and spraying new growth in the spring. Goats would be used in 2003 if they are available for what is needed. Volunteers continue efforts to remove invasive plants, but cannot use chemicals. Salt Creek crews will hand-remove blackberries east of Caper Acres. Restoration is important and Roxanne Baxter is working with CUSD on field trips that do such work.

Commissioner Wood said there are areas throughout the park where a few canes of blackberry have started. They should be found and hand removed while small. He would like to offer an Adopt-A-Plant plan for those who have an interest.

COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER MOVED TO APPROVE THE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PLAN AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0. STUDENT COMMISSIONER ANDERSON VOTED AYE.

Break from 8:45 to 8:55

7. Request and Consideration of a Tree Growth Regulator Test Program to be Conducted by Pacific Gas and Electric Company on City Street Trees

This item was addressed early to accommodate PG&E personnel from out of town. PG&E has asked to run a growth regulator test on City street trees. Staff investigated any potential side effects associated with a soil drench application of Profile 2SC and determined there would be no adverse impacts. Test spots would be on Humboldt Road, east of First Street, and other streets in the older section of town.

Nelson R. Mony, arborist and pest control advisor for PG&E, said they want to reduce the amount of trimming while staying in compliance with required clearances. Profile 2SC has been widely used in the United States for a number of years and is successful. It is usually applied in December and January. They would treat a variety of trees and would bring back a report to Commission with the results.

Chair Coggins wants the neighbors to know when the tests occur. From the public, Susan Mason said she has looked at the work PG&E has done in Chico and sees that topping trees encourages extra growth.

COMMISSIONER DUNNING MOVED TO APPROVE THE TEST PROGRAM.
COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.
STUDENT COMMISSIONER ANDERSON VOTED AYE.

4. Report from Master Management Plan Committee (Schreiber, Kidd and Dunning, Chair) Meeting of November 13, 2002

a. Review and consideration of request from the Chico Area Recreation and Park District regarding rules and regulations

CARD is requesting changes in rules and regulations under Title 12R regarding camping, commercial signage, and the use of boats in Sycamore Pool. Committee recommends all requests be included in CARD's permit at the beginning of the activity year and evaluated after the year is over. They suggest American Legion baseball use vinyl banners and put them up during the games only.

Mary Cahill, CARD General Manager, said they are faced with providing new programs that require facilities as the community creates more demand. They would like to come to the Commission only once a year, but do not know when something else may come up. She would like to put commercial signs up for the baseball season to pay for new lighting at Doryland Field.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO ALLOW A CAMPOUT, AQUATIC ADVENTURE CAMP, KAYAK CLASSES, FLY BALL TOURNAMENT, AND BALL FIELD ADVERTISING DURING GAMES ONLY FOR 2003. COMMISSIONER KIDD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0. STUDENT COMMISSIONER ANDERSON VOTED AYE.

b. Review and Consideration of "Smoking Prohibited" Signs Adjacent to Children Play Areas

In response to recently enacted state law, a sign was shown to the Commission that is to be posted near children's play areas stating "smoking is prohibited within 25 feet of the area and no littering of cigarette butts allowed". It would be 8" X 11" metal and attached to existing signs.

COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER MOVED TO APPROVE THE SIGN. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0. STUDENT COMMISSIONER ANDERSON VOTED AYE.

5. Report from Trail/Safety Committee (Candela, Kidd and Wood, Chair) Meeting of November 13, 2002

a. Review and consider signs on the north side of Upper Bidwell Park

Michael Jones said all trail junctions have signs except for 30. Committee recommends putting in 12 signs now and using stickers on Middle Trail signs to assess public reaction.

COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER MOVED TO APPROVE TWELVE SIGNS. COMMISSIONER

KIDD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0. STUDENT COMMISSIONER ANDERSON VOTED AYE.

b. Review and consider wording for Trail Brochure

Committee is still working on the wording for brochures and will have ideas at the next meeting. No action required.

c. Consider requesting environmental review for the proposed stairs - Yahi Trail - parking lot Q

The committee requested a written response from the Planning Department and City Attorney regarding the need for an EIR for the proposed steps at Parking Area Q. They have determined the steps need some level of an EIR as an improvement. A report will explain how extensive the EIR will be.

From the public, Michael Jones said steps on the existing trail are the only way to complete the trail and Commission approved it. He wants to know why staff requested he stop work.

Park Director Beardsley said the negative declaration for Yahi Trail did not understand that extensive work with the steps was included. Commission can approve projects, but not the extensive steps. No action required.

d. Approval of sign for Adopt-A-Trail program

Michael Jones has offered to adopt Yahi Trail and provided a sign he would like to place on the trail saying so.

COMMISSIONER KIDD MOVED TO APPROVE THE SIGN. COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0. STUDENT COMMISSIONER ANDERSON VOTED AYE.

6. Request from Commissioner Kidd to Consider Changing the Convening Time for the Regular Bidwell Park and Playground Commission Meetings

Commissioner Kidd asked to discuss again the time to begin BPPC regular meetings. Yes: Kidd, Schreiber, Coggins. No: Dunning, Candela, Wood.

Dunning suggested this item be put on the January agenda for consideration by new

commissioners.

5. REPORTS

1. Director's Report

Work continues at Wildwood Park; the fishing deck at Horseshoe Lake is completed; Council approved \$50,000 for Baroni Park master plan, approved \$25,000 to treat aphids on Chinese Hackberry trees, and deferred action on personnel requests.

2. Monthly Report Received and filed.

3. Incident Reports Received and filed.

4. Correspondence None

6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Susan Mason and Michael Jones said they have noticed a lot of new damage to trails in Upper Park, particularly on the south side, by bicyclists going over rock edges using increased speed from new tech bikes. They would like to work with bike shops and clubs on the problems. They request putting an item on the Trail/Safety Committee agenda to discuss widths of trail, speed limits, and rules from the International Mountain Bike brochure.

7. ADJOURNMENT - SPECIAL NOTE OF CHANGED MEETING DATE IN DECEMBER 2002

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 p.m. to the next regular meeting of December 16, 2002.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
SIGN IN SHEET
NOVEMBER 25, 2002

	Name	Address
1.	Jack Skibo	287 Humboldt
2.	Carlton Lowen	196 Humboldt
3.	Nelson R. Mony	PG&E, 1050 High Street, Auburn
4.	Susan Mason	PO Box 3036
5.	Mary Cahill	CARD, 545 Vallambrosa
6.	Michael Jones	2411 Notre Dame Blvd

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
DECEMBER 16, 2002
MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Present at Roll Call: Chair Wendy Coggins, Commissioners Glenn Dunning, Mary Schreiber, David Wood, Michael Candela and Don Kidd; staff Park Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Chris Boza, Assistant City Attorney Alicia M. Rock, and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes from Regular Meeting of November 25, 2002

COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER MOVED TO APPROVED THE MINUTES. COMMISSIONER KIDD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0. STUDENT COMMISSIONER ANDERSON VOTED AYE.

3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS None

4. REGULAR AGENDA

1. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda None

2. Review and Consideration of Interpretive Sign at the Bear Hole Parking Area - Upper Bidwell Park

Michael Collins and Steve Hogue designed an interpretive sign to be placed at Bear Hole parking area. It includes safety information. The cost of \$1,200 is covered by donations and department funds. Commissioner Dunning said he likes the positive way the message is worded.

COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER MOVED TO PLACE THE SIGN AT BEAR HOLE. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0. COMMISSIONER ANDERSON VOTED AYE.

3. Report on the Clean-Up Considerations for the Former Rifle/Skeet-Trap Range - Upper Bidwell Park

Results of a second study on sixteen acres in Upper Park, included Horseshoe Lake, have confirmed elevated levels of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and lead in the ground. Park Director Beardsley said there are safety issues and staff would like to enter into a voluntary cleanup agreement for that area with the Department of Toxic Substance Control (DTSC) as oversight agency. Oversight costs for DTSC would be \$25,000. Specific clean up actions and costs still need to be determined, but time-critical removal could cut paper work and costs and may avoid having to fence off the area from public use.

From the public, Andy Tomaselli said there are many cancerous agents that may come back to haunt us in a big way even though no one is sick at this time. Josephine Guardino is confused because two studies have identified the area as a toxic site but we don't know the effects. The most prudent thing is to get warning signs out immediately to notify the public the site is contaminated. Jim Brubeck is glad this is being brought to the attention of the Council, but warned not to be hasty to save money. Find ramifications of disturbing the ground and deal with it without harming the surroundings. Experts are needed for a complete clean up. Susan Baldwin said it is rude that Commissioner would sit up there and laugh whether they agree with a speaker or not. Tom Barrett said he is a certified lead expert and there is a hazard there. There are two other hazardous sites near that are the responsibility of the Rod and Gun Club, though they deny it. He would like to hear more about the clean up options.

Chair Coggins said BPPC is asking Council to treat this as a serious matter, grant the money, and ask for hazard warning signs to be placed around the area.

4. Review and Consider Establishing the Humboldt Neighborhood Park (Skate Board) Task Force to Address Recent Vandalism and How to Encourage Appropriate Use

Council supports the formation of a Task Force made up of park users and community volunteers to discuss problems in the Skate Board Park. Commissioners Coggins, Schreiber and Woods would like to attend. The first meeting is now scheduled for January 16, 2003 at 7:00 p.m.

BREAK FROM 8:25 TO 8:30.

5. Report from Trail/Safety Committee (Candela, Kidd and Wood, Chair) Meeting of December 11, 2002

a. Report and consideration of proposed Annie Bidwell Trail project alignment

Park Director Beardsley showed new maps of the alignment for the potential Annie Bidwell Trail to be used for the EIR process. The main trail is designated multi-purpose but allows for other pedestrian trails to be more narrow and have less impact. Staff now recommends a more detailed review in the EIR for a proposed loop in the vicinity of Day Camp Hole and Alligator Hole. It was designated pedestrian only but also could be multi-purpose. The EIR will consider both version and final decisions will be made after the EIR is completed.

From the public, Randy Abbott said new trails are undesirable and he opposes over-trailing Upper Park. A trail through the most sensitive, pristine part of the Park is foolish destruction. You ignore the need to protect that creekside and its uniqueness for the enjoyment of future generations. Wildlife is there for breeding because the south bank is unaffected. There will be need for more trails when the City grows, but they are not crowded now. Some of us spoke at public meetings and thought we were on record but just learned that only Council and Commission meetings are on record.

Michael Jones said the trail was routed almost entirely outside the riparian corridor from the first. Most studies have identified concern for Checkerbloom. Upper routes disturb Checkerbloom more than lower routes and they would be more costly to build.

Susan Baldwin is unclear why a new trail was introduced at all. She is against the whole idea of a new trail. It would be more prudent to fix the damage on existing trails. Commissioner Dunning said the Jeep trail is highly eroded and that is one reason to re-route. The whole concept of a trail from Bidwell Mansion to the end of the Park has been going on for years. Now staff is asking for permission to do the EIR for this section. Chair Coggins said Council recommended a new trail after they bought more land and wanted public access.

Josephine Guardino said Council approved the Annie Bidwell Trail two years ago and studies say there would be significant environmental impacts but we keep doing new studies. We don't need a new trail, especially not within the sight and sound of the creek because Yahí is there. A Management Plan should be done before an EIR to determine what areas will be developed in the future and what set aside. There are other important things in the park that need the

money.

Andy Tomaselli said it is not too late to stop construction of the trail. He is opposed to any trail on the south side within sight and sound of the creek and in the sensitive riparian corridor. Checkerbloom used to bloom in the frisbee golf course area but has been gone the last two years. So keep the beauty for our children.

Tom Barrett said two years ago Council approved the Annie Bidwell Trail using the existing trail and upgrading it. But it has been changed and is still coming up for discussion. Only the Joneses spoke for it and that is just one source of information. Commissioner Dunning said the alignment has not changed but loops have been added now instead of waiting until later or the public makes their own loops to the creek. The discussion now is whether to include this loop in the EIR. The trail has not changed.

Lynn Thomas said don't put a trail on the south side where there is more potential for habitat, but put it on the north side that is drier. She attended the first meeting and was told she could talk when the EIR comes out. That is why Commission doesn't know there are those who do not want the trail and they hear only one side. Chair Coggins said all the planning has included care not to harm the beauty of the south side. Commissioner Candela said now we are broadening the consultant's ability to give other choices and the EIR would address some of the opponents' concern.

Susan Mason is disappointed Council sets a priority for new trails instead of taking care of existing trails. They are ignoring what the Trails Manual calls for.

David Nople voiced concern for the project. We see a rapid change in the park as people keep adding things and redesigning the landscape for their pleasure. After 30 years of using the park, a red light went on when he saw the objectionable interpretive signs on Yahli Trail. He is concerned the detrimental process of change is now beginning on the south side. Many life forms use that trail area and would have to move out. One or two people can have a profound impact on the park, but determine what the larger community wants there.

Sam Hillaire does not want more trails and is confused about what you are asking for. Would both trails potentially be four feet wide? Commissioner Dunning explained the change is to consider both trails as both kinds. It has not been decided which they will be.

Jim Brobeck said Council approved money for the EIR but there is new information on a hazardous area in the Park so Council should look again at allocations and maybe make changes. Hold on to the money.

Commissioner Dunning said Bidwell is a park, not a wilderness area or a preserve. The trail will be decided after the EIR is completed and Council has approved it and funding. Chair Coggins said she wants any loop to be a pedestrian trail only.

COMMISSIONER DUNNING MOVED TO APPROVE THE ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS. COMMISSIONER KIDD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-1. AYES: COMMISSIONERS DUNNING, SCHREIBER, KIDD, WOOD AND CANDELA; STUDENT COMMISSIONER ANDERSON. NOES: CHAIR COGGINS.

b. Review and consider trail names in Upper Bidwell Park

Chair Woods said the Chamber of Commerce brochure is coming out soon and needs names for the trails. The last one to be named is now "Live Oak" in focus area #9.

COMMISSIONER SCHREIBER MOVED TO APPROVE THE NAME OF LIVE OAK TRAIL. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0. COMMISSIONER ANDERSON VOTED AYE.

c. Consider establishing a trail difficulty program for Upper Bidwell Park

Chair Wood said this is a work in progress. In designating the degree of difficulty, Committee wants to err on the side of being cautious. Trails users will come back to the next meeting with further recommendations.

5. REPORTS

1. Director's Report

Park Director Beardsley said there is a meeting tentatively set for January 8, 2003 on Baroni Park. Discussion continues on how students can use South Park Drive to get to and from Hank Marsh Junior High. Lindo Channel restoration project must be completed by May, 2004. Staff is now working on final design and permits. Volunteers and appointed staff have worked on over seven miles of trail in the last several months and maintenance days are scheduled through the winter. There may be two crews set up - one for light work and one for more sturdy workers.

Urban Forester Boza said it has been an interesting weekend with storm damage, but public tree damage is fairly small. Crews are doing clean up and pick up of downed limbs. Locations of check trees have been determined where the growth regulator study will be done. They are treating 29 species and neighbors will be notified by door hanger. Tree crew will also be doing injection for treatment of aphids beginning in January.

2. **Incident Reports** Received and filed.

3. **Correspondence** None

6. **BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

Commissioner Schreiber thanked Student Commissioner Anderson for her participation on the Commission. This is her last meeting.

Michael Jones said there has been about 40 public meetings on the trails. He would like to maintain the existing trails but organized environmentalists don't get out to support the work. He would like to adopt Upper Trail and maintain it to Class B. He would also like to close and rehabilitate the Upper Upper Trail because two are not needed in that area.

Commissioner Wood said the Upper Trail is probably Class D now and would require big changes to become Class B. Park Director Beardsley said the proposal will go to the Trails/Safety Committee agenda. Commissioner Candela said there is an application to fill out for Adopt-A-Trail volunteers.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Coggins adjourned her last meeting at 9:50 p.m. to the next regular meeting of January 27, 2003.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
SIGN IN SHEET
DECEMBER 16, 2002

	Name	Address
1.	Andy Tomaselli	1300 Salem Street
2.	Josephine Guardino	467 East 9 th Street
3.	Jim Brobeck	1605 Manzanita
4.	Susan Baldwin	1544 Normal
5.	Tom Barrett	1025 Bryant
6.	Randy M. Abbott	
7.	Michael Jones	2411 Notre Dame Blvd
8.	Lynn Thomas	
9.	Susan Mason	PO Box 3036 95927
10.	Dave Nopel	517 W. First Avenue
11.	Sam Hillaire	2925 Burnap Ave #12